

Vorontsov arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov arrived in Baghdad on Wednesday on the first leg of a three-nation Gulf tour to discuss ways to end the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war. Soviet sources said Mr. Vorontsov was expected to meet Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz during his three day visit to Iraq before he travels on to Kuwait and Tehran. The Soviet envoy visited both Baghdad and Tehran last June and again in July. On his last visit, he pressed the two sides to accept United Nations proposals to end the conflict. Diplomatic sources in the Gulf region have said Mr. Vorontsov was also likely to reassure Kuwait and Iraq that Moscow's improved commercial ties with Iran would not affect its support for the Arabs. The Soviet Union is Iraq's main arms supplier and has a friendship treaty with Baghdad. Iraqi officials and media have expressed disquiet at Moscow's ties with Tehran.

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Cypriot envoy arrives with message

AMMAN (Petra) — An envoy of Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, Labour Minister Andrius Masioutas, arrived here on Wednesday on a three-day official visit to Jordan carrying a message to His Majesty King Hussein from President Kyprianou. Mr. Masioutas, in an arrival statement, paid tribute to His Majesty's leadership and his role in supporting peace efforts in the Middle East. He also said that the people and government of Cyprus follow with interest and appreciation the King's distinguished and intense efforts aimed at achieving just and durable peace in the Middle East. His Majesty's efforts, Mr. Masioutas said, have succeeded in securing support of the world community, including Cyprus, for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East. The Cypriot minister added that Cyprus, which is linked by close and strong relations with the Arab World, strongly condemns continuing Israeli aggression against Arab citizens in the occupied territories. Israel's rejection of the international peace conference, U.N. resolutions and expansionist policies are the main obstacles to peace in the region, Mr. Masioutas added.

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King sends good wishes to Turkey

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to Turkish President Kenan Evren in which he congratulated him on the occasion of the anniversary of declaration of the Republic of Turkey. The King wished President Evren continuing good health and happiness and the Turkish people further progress and prosperity.

Soviets said to have promised increased Jewish emigration

TEL AVIV (R) — The Soviet Union has told the United States it will allow larger numbers of Jews to emigrate, sources in Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office said on Wednesday. They said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Moscow last week that between 12,000 and 13,000 Jews would leave this year and more would be granted exit visas in future. The Israeli sources, briefed by U.S. diplomats on Mr. Shultz's talks with Kremlin leaders, said the rise in emigration was not linked to any Israeli "concession" on an international Middle East peace conference, which Mr. Shamir strongly opposes.

Israeli soldiers get amnesty

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli army commander has reduced the sentences of three soldiers who were jailed for brutally beating a Palestinian in the occupied Gaza Strip, the newspaper Haaretz reported on Wednesday. The soldiers, jailed for three months by a military court, were released after 30 days because they were "good" soldiers and the man "provoked" them, an army official told the paper.

Fire put out at Saudi pipeline

BAHRAIN (R) — Fire engulfed a Saudi Arabian oil pipeline serving the world's largest offshore oilfield on Wednesday, shipping sources in the region said. One source said the sea was ablaze over a two-mile strip in the Safaniya field in the northern Gulf after a supply boat was believed to have accidentally hit the pipeline, rupturing it. A pilot at Saudi Arabia's main Ras Tanura oil terminal said the fire, which shipping sources said started on Wednesday afternoon, had been finally extinguished in the late evening.

Italy sentences arms ship captain

SAVONA, Italy (R) — The Irish captain of a freighter found illegally carrying 14 tonnes of weapons was given a four-year prison sentence by an Italian court on Wednesday but was immediately released and ordered to remain in the northern city of Savona. John Scallan, 48, was arrested 10 days ago after customs police discovered 350 West German-made machine-guns and spare parts in an undocumented container on board the Qatari-registered freighter Fatulkhair when it docked in Savona.

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Moscow revives hopes for superpower summit

Shevardnadze heads for U.S. with message from Gorbachev to Reagan and for talks with Shultz

Combined agency dispatches

SOVIET Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze left Moscow en route to Washington on Wednesday carrying a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in what was seen as a Soviet initiative to breathe new life into efforts to arrange a summit between the two leaders.

Soviet officials said Mr. Shevardnadze left Moscow for Prague to attend a Warsaw Pact foreign ministers meeting there on Thursday and Friday before flying to Washington with Mr. Gorbachev's message.

A two-paragraph dispatch by the Soviet news agency TASS said Mr. Shevardnadze "will pay a working visit to Washington on Oct. 30-31."

"He will convey a message from Mikhail S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU (Soviet Communist Party) Central Committee, to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and con-

tinue talks with the president and the U.S. secretary of state on key issues of Soviet-American relations."

The TASS dispatch made no mention of a summit or the content of Mr. Gorbachev's message to Mr. Reagan.

The White House simultaneously confirmed Mr. Shevardnadze's trip.

The TASS report was the first Soviet confirmation that Mr. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz would meet again. Mr. Shultz's two-day trip to Moscow last week failed to set a date for a superpower summit.

A U.S. official in Washington said Mr. Shevardnadze was coming to discuss a proposed superpower treaty to scrap intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) and prospects for a third meeting between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev.

The White House described the planned talks in Washington as a continuation of discussions Mr. Shevardnadze held in the U.S. capital in September and again Oct. 22-23 with Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz.

Mr. Gorbachev told Mr. Shultz in Moscow on Friday that he would not go to the United States to sign an INF treaty unless the superpowers make tangible progress on strategic weapons and consolidation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

TASS gave no indication of whether the Soviet leader had modified his position.

Quizzed about Mr. Shevardnadze's trip, a Soviet Foreign Ministry official said "active consultations" were under way with Soviet allies and that contacts

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq ends lull in Gulf war with raids on tankers and land targets

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday its warplanes destroyed three tankers off the Iranian coast and economic and industrial targets in the Iranian mainland in a series of air raids that ended a week-long lull in the Gulf war.

Shipping sources in the Gulf said a tanker had been hit off the northern Iranian coast after midnight (2100 GMT Tuesday) but they were unable to obtain more details.

An Iraqi military spokesman said two attacks on ships were overnight between 1600 GMT and 2200 GMT and a third was struck at 0210 GMT on Wednesday.

The ships were a supertanker and two tankers or cargo ships, according to Iraq's normal coding system. Baghdad's last attack on a ship was on the Iranian tanker Khark-4 on Oct. 21.

Iraq's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) and Tehran Radio acknowledged that Iraqi warplanes had struck land targets on Tuesday and Wednesday "in-

cluding several civilians."

But the Iranian media made no mention of ships being hit in the Gulf waters.

IRNA quoted a spokesman at the war information headquarters in Tehran as warning the Iraqi population to "stay clear of industrial and economic centres in Iraq to avoid getting hurt in Iranian reprisal attacks."

Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) on Wednesday before leaving for a brief visit to Bahrain that Baghdad was determined "to continue destroying Iran's economic installations until it succumbs to a comprehensive peace."

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has asked Tehran and Baghdad to respond by the end of the month to proposals which aim to implement a July 20 U.N. Security Council call for a ceasefire in the seven-year-old Gulf war.

A statement by a military spokesman, carried by INA later Wednesday, identified the targets

hit in the day's raids as the Bibi Hakimeh petrochemical complex, a chemical plant east of the city of Shiraz and a "highly important" refinery north of Shiraz. All three sites are in the southern Fars province.

The agency quoted a spokesman as saying the jets mounted the almost simultaneous raids at 11 a.m. (0800 GMT), almost six hours after the last raid on ships in Iranian waters.

The agency said the recent raids were designed "to teach the charlatans of Iran not to use the revenues from oil exports to prolong the war and launch further aggression against our land and people."

On the land front, Iraqi Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah on Tuesday inspected forward positions held by three army corps covering Iraq's entire southern area.

Such inspections by Gen. Khairallah have in the past indicated Iran massing troops before

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U.S. seeking allied support for trade embargo on Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has launched a campaign to enlist support from its Western allies for its trade embargo against Iran similar to that announced this week by President Ronald Reagan.

The State Department has declared the U.S. embargo was a response not only to Iran's refusal to end the war with Iraq but also "part of a process of trying to contain Iran's support for terrorism and subversion."

A newly issued report branded Iran as "one of the world's most active states supporting international terrorism and subversion against other countries."

The Iran terrorism report was issued "to help put... in context" Mr. Reagan's Monday announcement of an embargo on all U.S. imports from Iran as well as a ban on export to Iran of militarily useful items, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Tuesday.

The latest measures were taken both because of Iran's refusal to end the Gulf war and "because of Iran's support for terrorism," the State Department report said.

"We will be urging our OECD allies to take similar measures

against Iran," Redman told reporters. OECD stands for the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development, made up of the West's leading industrial countries.

Redman cited one example of an allied country already taking similar action — "the French government had already asked French companies not to import Iranian oil."

The spokesman acknowledged that if the United States declines to purchase from Iran, "there are other buyers there who are ready," but added, "even though Iran may be able to sell its products elsewhere, at least this embargo will deny access to U.S. markets."

The 16-page State Department report on Iranian terrorism included a chronology of 56 terrorist incidents from 1980 to 1987 which the State Department blamed on Iran or its supporters. The incidents ranged from India across the Middle East and Europe to Washington.

The 1979 seizure of the American embassy in Tehran and holding its personnel hostage for 444 days has been followed by terrorist activity "in a variety of form

and places," the State Department said, because, it added, "the government of Iran regards terrorism as an integral tool of its foreign policy, to be used when the opportunity seems propitious."

The State Department listed Iranian terrorist incidents in these broad groupings:

— Kidnappings in Lebanon, mostly by the Iranian-supported Hizbollah.

— Assassinations, successful and attempted, of anti-Khomeini Iranian dissidents in European cities and Karachi, Pakistan.

— Attacks against Arab and Islamic embassies, airline offices and other sites in India, Pakistan, the Middle East and Europe.

— Attacks against peacekeeping forces, including bombings of U.S. and French marines in Beirut.

— Airline hijackings. The report said several countries have responded to Iranian terrorism by breaking diplomatic relations or closing Iranian installations, including Tunisia, France, Britain and the United States. Iran threatens to close Strait of Hormuz, page 2



King receives credentials of 5 ambassadors

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday received the credentials of five newly-appointed ambassadors to Jordan. The five were (clockwise in photos) Mr. Bashir Salim Ibn Faraj of Oman, Mr. Abdul Rahman Abo Hussein of Somalia, Dr. Geremimo Cortes of Argentina, Mr. Ramon Armengod Lopez of Spain and Mr. John Carter of New Zealand.

Attending the presentation ceremonies, which included a guard of honour and playing the respective national anthems of the five countries, were Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

King attends graduation of security personnel

Later on Wednesday, His Majesty the King, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, patronised a graduation ceremony of a new batch of security personnel at the Royal Bodyguard Training Centre.

In a speech on the occasion, the commander of the Royal Bodyguard Battalion outlined the stages of trainings and subjects taught during the training course.

The King then watched some exercises carried out by the graduates. The King then distributed certificates to the graduates



and prizes to those excelling in their course. The graduation ceremony was

attended by several Royal family members, Prince Ra'd, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief

Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and high-ranking Armed Forces officers and invited guests.

Arab student wounded in Israeli gunfire at Bethlehem protesters

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and severely wounded a Palestinian student at the Bethlehem University on Wednesday after student demonstrations there, Israeli police said.

The demonstration by 200 students commemorated the anniversary on Thursday of a 1956 massacre by Israeli troops of 49 residents at the Arab village of Kafr Kassem, Israeli and university officials said.

The student, shot in the head, was taken to hospital in critical condition.

"The university is encircled by troops and the situation is very tense," university spokesman Mousa Darwish said.

An Israeli army official said the demonstration started at about

noon at the university, where Palestinian students threw stones and raised the Palestinian flag. About 100 students then rushed to the streets of Bethlehem. They erected roadblocks and set tyres ablaze, the army official said.

According to the Israeli version of the events, soldiers fired at the student after demonstrators hurled a petrol bomb at troops and border police on the main street near the university.

Israeli officials said they expected a fresh outburst of anti-Israeli protests this week, the anniversary of the massacre and the Nov. 2, 1917, Balfour Declaration in which Britain pledged to allow a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Palestinian sources said

Wednesday's demonstration also was to protest against an Israeli round-up this week of 27 Palestinians at nearby Dheish refugee camp.

Nine Palestinians surrendered to authorities Tuesday after the army failed to apprehend them during house-to-house searches of the camp Monday and left notices at their homes, said an army official.

During Monday's sweep, 18 camp residents were arrested and several hundred Palestinian men rounded up for identity checks.

About half the Palestinians arrested Monday were ordered held in "administrative detention," which allows the Israeli army to keep anyone in custody without trial for up to six months.

U.S. stocks close marginally higher after see-saw trading

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street's top stocks closed marginally higher on Wednesday as a falling dollar and big losses in foreign markets contributed to a see-saw day.

The Dow Jones industrial average of blue-chip stocks closed 0.33 points higher at 1,846.82, according to unofficial tabulations. It fell 65 points in early trading before rebounding as high as 1,884.

But in the broader market, declining issues led advances throughout the day and finished ahead by a 9.5 margin.

Volume reached 281 million shares on the New York stock exchange in a session that ended two hours earlier than usual.

The dollar slumped on Wednesday to a seven-year low against the West German mark as

coordinated central bank intervention failed to dispel trader fears that the once-mighty currency is on a steep downward path (See page 7).

The dollar shed over two pence to 1.7355 West German marks from Tuesday's New York close of 1.7575, while it lost more than 2 1/2 yen to 138.30 yen from Tuesday's 140.85.

Currency dealers in New York confirmed that the Federal Reserve intervened in the markets to buy dollars against the mark, yen and possibly the Swiss franc.

Meanwhile on Wall Street, some dealers were upbeat.

"The market is looking very good. Maybe what we're seeing today is that the people that wanted to sell out have already done so," said market analyst Jon Groveman of Ladenburg Thal-

mann and Co. There were no new economic events to explain the rally, which was viewed mainly as a wave of bargain-hunting following last week's steep market decline, including a 508-point fall on the Dow on Oct. 19.

Stock values have dropped by one-third since its high last August.

"Foreign investors tried to sell us down this morning, but we beat them back... it looks like we're going to be steady, at least for a while," said James Andrews, manager of equity trading at Janney Montgomery Scott.

Several analysts said the market showed signs of regaining control after the crash a week ago Monday and subsequent volatility.

Mubarak: Iran poses threat to all Arabs

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has called for a common Arab strategy against Iran whose actions, he said, threaten all Arab states.

In an interview with the Kuwait daily Al Siyassah published on Wednesday, the Egyptian leader stressed his support for Kuwait, target of recent Iranian missile attacks, but declined to discuss possible military aid to the emirate.

"This danger threatens the entire Arab World if we look at things from a strategic point of view, and for this we have always said the Arabs must sit down to forge a common strategy and agree on goals," Mr. Mubarak said.

"As long as there are those who help Iran and try to benefit from it and stand behind it, Iran will strike the Arab Nation. Yesterday Iraq and today

Kuwait... tomorrow, what?" On military support, Mr. Mubarak said: "I cannot discuss this in the press, because if I do I will be extending a great benefit to the enemy."

"What I can say is that Kuwait is a very friendly country and an Arab and Islamic state and we are interested in seeing it preserve its independence and sovereignty," he told Ahmad Jarallah, editor and publisher of Al Siyassah.

Mr. Mubarak said he was "very much disturbed," when Iran fired Chinese-made Silkworm missiles at two oil tankers in Kuwaiti territorial waters. He even considered flying to Kuwait to meet with the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

But he decided against going "in order to avoid possible embarrassment, especially with the Arab summit approaching," Mr. Mubarak said.

Kuwait, the picture becomes very gloomy and ugly and if the Arab Nation is unable to evaluate this, it can be very dangerous," Mr. Mubarak said in the interview conducted in Cairo.

Mr. Mubarak on Tuesday sent a message to Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah with an Egyptian parliamentary delegation, but its contents have not been divulged.

Reports that Egypt has already officially sent 70 air force pilots and support staff to Iran-threatened Kuwait were denied in Cairo earlier this week.

Responding to a question as to whether Iran was able to open other fronts with Gulf Arab countries in addition to the front with Iraq, Mr. Mubarak said "Yes, it is very possible." He cited pro-Iran groups in Lebanon, which he said were receiving assistance

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Ibrahimi: Summit's main goal is an end to Gulf war

RIYADH (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi said on Wednesday that the main objective of the Arab summit in Amman on Nov. 8 would be to find a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war.

"The main objective of the summit is to find a common position for the Arab World towards the war and put an end to it... and pool our resources within those of the United Nations," Dr. Ibrahimi told reporters before flying to Kuwait.

Dr. Ibrahimi, touring several states ahead of the summit talks, delivered a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to Saudi Arabian King Fahd.

Dr. Ibrahimi said that in the absence of an Arab plan for ending the Gulf war, the Arab countries "should channel their efforts into the framework of the U.N. Secretary-General's (bid) to secure the desired peaceful solution."

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal was quoted by the Saudi newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat as saying the summit would seek the "adoption of a unified Arab stand toward relations between the Arab states and Iran in light of its stand on the war with Iraq and its aggression on Arab countries that were not party to the war."

It apparently was a reference to the firing of at least four Iranian missiles at Kuwait.

Prince Saud said that differences in attitudes over how the summit should approach the Iran issue did not mean that it would be difficult to adopt a unified stand.

Study: U.S. force in Gulf must include nuclear arms

WASHINGTON (R) — Several U.S. ships now in the Gulf area are certain to be carrying nuclear weapons ranging from sea-launched Tomahawk cruise missiles to B-57 depth bombs, the author of a new study has said.

William Arkin, author of the Nuclear Arms Race at Sea, said the aircraft carrier Ranger, now in the north Arabian Sea, normally carries B-43 and B-61 nuclear gravity bombs in addition to the B-57 depth bombs.

"All aircraft carriers are always nuclear-armed when they're at sea," Mr. Arkin, director of the National Security Programme at the Washington-based Institute for Policy Studies, told Reuters after presenting his study at a news conference.

A Pentagon spokesman, asked to comment, repeated the standard U.S. position: "We don't discuss the presence or absence of nuclear weapons aboard navy ships in any locations."

According to Mr. Arkin, a total of 278 U.S. Navy ships and submarines are currently capable of firing nuclear weapons, includ-

ing all U.S. aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers and destroyers, and some of the frigates and attack submarines.

Mr. Arkin, whose study was presented in support of a campaign by the environmental group Greenpeace to oppose what they call the naval nuclear arms race, said the presence of nuclear-armed ships in the area was dangerous even though their nuclear weapons are clearly not intended for use in the Gulf.

He said nuclear-armed U.S. ships could become prime targets for Iranian attack if war broke out with the United States.

"With nuclear-armed ships currently mobilised in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean, a conventional conflict or the wrong spark during a crisis could set off a series of events that would activate strategies that would lead to nuclear

war," Mr. Arkin said.

Mr. Arkin said the battleship Missouri, also in the north Arabian Sea to support a policy of escorting 11 Kuwaiti tankers re-registered under the U.S. flag since July, was equipped with Tomahawks, based on standard navy practice.

The ammunition ship Shasta, part of the Ranger battle group, would also be carrying nuclear weapons, including Terrier surface-to-air missiles and anti-submarine rockets, to supply cruisers and destroyers in the event of hostilities, he said.

The United States has the largest arsenal of naval nuclear weapons with 9,347, about 60 per cent of the total deployed by the five declared nuclear powers and 37 per cent of the U.S. nuclear stockpile, according to Mr. Arkin.

He said the Soviet navy has about 5,400 naval nuclear warheads, or 36 per cent of the total, and 624 ships and submarines capable of firing nuclear torpedoes, missiles and rockets.

S. Korean hostage freed in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — South Korean hostage Chae Do-Sung, held in Lebanon for 20 months, has been released and flown home via Kuwait, sources at Beirut International Airport said on Wednesday.

They said Mr. Sung, 43, a second secretary at his country's embassy in Beirut, left secretly on Tuesday with an unidentified person.

Mr. Sung, one of 27 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon, was kidnapped on Jan. 31, 1986.

A previously unknown group, calling itself the Revolutionary Commando Cells had claimed responsibility for Mr. Sung's kidnapping and demanded a ransom of \$10 million.

It was not known here whether any ransom had been paid.

On Tuesday, kidnapped American journalist Terry Anderson, the longest-held foreign hostage, turned 40. It was the third birthday he marks in captivity.

Iran reportedly redeployes more Silkorms in Fao

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. defence officials on Tuesday challenged an Iranian opposition group's report that Iran was moving a Silkorm missile and launcher from the Strait of Hormuz towards the Fao peninsula for a possible new attack in the northern Gulf.

The defence officials said recent U.S. intelligence data did not indicate any move to shift one of the missiles more than 400 miles. They told Reuters Iran already had Silkorms stored near Fao on the Iranian side of the Iran-Iraq border.

Chinese-made Iranian Silkorms based on the occupied Fao peninsula of Iraq have been blamed for three attacks on targets in Kuwait waters in the last two weeks, including one on the U.S. flag Kuwait tanker Sea Isle City on Oct. 16.

The People's Mujahideen opposition group told a news conference here on Tuesday that a Silkorm and related equipment were moved last Saturday from a hilltop site at Sirik, overlooking the Strait of Hormuz 60 miles south east of the Iranian naval base at Bandar-Abbas.

A convoy accompanying the missile had reached the Revolutionary Guard headquarters at Shiraz en route to Fao, Ali Safavi, the group's spokesman, told reporters.

But defence officials, who asked not to be identified, challenged the report.

"There have been no Silkorm missiles on station along the Strait of Hormuz for several months. They are in storage at Bandar-Abbas," one official told Reuters.

"I have seen nothing to indicate any movement of a missile from that area to Fao," the official said. "Why would they (the Iranians) do that when they already have another Silkorm storage facility in Iranian territory near Fao?"

Defence officials on Tuesday refused to say whether Iranian forces had any Silkorms deployed on Fao, but the Pentagon said earlier "every indication we have" was that Iran hit the Sea Isle City from Fao, captured by Iranian forces early last year.

Mr. Safavi said his information came from opposition supporters within the Iranian Armed Forces and Revolutionary Guards.

He said he expected the Iranian army to use the redeployed Silkorm "in the coming days in

the service of its warmongering goals." He gave no estimate of the number of Silkorms which Iran now has.

The U.S. State Department said last Thursday it was suspending consideration of further high-technology transfers to China because of what it said is China's continued sale of Silkorms to Iran.

Iran acknowledges having Silkorm missiles, but says it captured them in battle from Iraq. China has repeatedly said it does not sell arms or missiles to Iran.

Defence Department spokesman Fred Hoffman declined on Tuesday to confirm or deny published reports that Iran was buying more Silkorms from China, but said "the United States is understandably concerned."

"I can't go beyond that," he told reporters.

A shipload of Chinese-built artillery shells was delivered to Iran in the last week, and the countries may be close to making another deal for Silkorm anti-ship missiles, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

The U.S. report of the delivery and possible new deal amid denials by Chinese officials that China had supplied arms to Iran.

The officials, who requested anonymity, quoted U.S. intelligence agencies as saying the artillery shells were delivered "within the last few days."

"They definitely came from China. No question about it," said one official.

The sources added, without elaboration, that there were "some indications" China was preparing to sell additional Silkorm missiles to Iran, possibly through a Hong Kong trading front.

"It's all very sketchy at the moment," said one official. "But there could — and I emphasise could — be another deal in the works."

Meanwhile a prominent Afghan rebel leader said on Wednesday Iran seized 25 U.S.-made Stinger missiles from Afghan rebels operating from its border.

In an interview with Reuters, Jalaluddin Haqqani, a guerrilla field commander in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia province, refuted reports that Afghan rebels were selling the missiles to Iran for money or simpler weapons.

"We do not sell arms," Haqqani said. "We only buy weapons because we need them."

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Rabin accuses Europe of neglecting Gaza

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has accused Western Europe of neglecting the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and refusing to help improve life for its 650,000 Palestinians.

Israel occupied the strip in the 1967 Middle East war.

"Who will solve the economic problems of Gaza? Is the world contributing to it? Didn't I talk to the British prime minister and the West German chancellor? I said, 'come and help them.' They said, 'thank you, no,'" Rabin told parliament on Tuesday.

"Is anyone lifting a finger for them — except perhaps for an international organisation on a limited scale and us?" he said. He also blamed Arab countries for ignoring Gaza.

The 12-nation European Community gives \$3 million a year in aid to the occupied West Bank and Gaza, but Israeli leaders regard the sum as a token amount.

European leaders return the fire. During a visit this month, European Commissioner Claude Cheysson criticised Israel for

blocking the direct export of Palestinian farm products.

Palestinian farmers in the West Bank and Gaza must export their produce either through Israeli state marketing boards, which control quality, prices and shipping dates, or via Jordan, a circuitous route where quantities are limited.

Two weeks ago, Rabin praised Saudi Arabia, still officially at war with Israel, for giving \$1 million to a United Nations sewage project at the Jabalya Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip.

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Iran confirms Mujahedeen forays

WASHINGTON — Senior Iranian officials have confirmed that military actions staged by the rebel Iranian Liberation Army (ILA), made up largely of army dissidents, are causing problems for Iranian forces in the war against Iraq.

"Hit-and-run strikes by uniformed counter-revolutionaries have resulted in the deaths of dozens of Revolutionary Guards in western Iran," said a senior Iranian official.

Mujahedeen-E-Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi announced the formation of the rebel army last June, with strong backing from Iraq. Baghdad reportedly has provided training facilities and staging grounds for the unit's operations as well as headquarters facilities in the Iraqi capital — The Washington Post.

Hundreds flock to statue of Virgin Mary oozing oil

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (AP) — Palestinians flocked to a home in this predominantly Christian city after reports that a plastic statue of the Virgin Mary oozed olive oil when touched by a 10-year-old girl.

It was the third reported case of oil trickling from or near a Virgin Mary statue in Ramallah in the past week, said the Rev. George Makhlouf, a Greek Orthodox priest.

He said he considered only the most recent incident a bona fide "miracle" because in the previous two cases the "bleeding" stopped the same day.

At the home of the 10-year-old girl, Samaher Hnout, dozens of people Tuesday crowded into a small room where the 12-inch-high (30 centimetres) statue stood on a dark brown wall unit, framed by three candles and two bouquets of flowers. A dark wet

spot the size of a basketball was visible on the wall behind the statue.

An elderly woman spoke a prayer in Arabic, and women and school children one after another climbed on a green table to reach the statue and wipe it with balls of cotton.

Samaher said she discovered the oil Sunday morning as she swept the floor in the foyer.

"I looked up and found that the source of the oil was the Holy Virgin, and there was a spot on the wall," she said. "I started to pray, and the spot became bigger."

Word spread and hundreds of people, including Muslims, flocked to Samaher's home, asking her countless times to climb on the table, touch the statue and then rub her oil-covered fingers on the hands of the faithful, said Rev. Makhlouf.

Iran threatens to close strait if embargo effective

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said on Wednesday that it might close down the Strait of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf, if the Western economic embargo becomes effective.

Tehran Radio quoted President Ali Khamenei as saying: "they have threatened us with economic embargo by Western countries. But we are not frightened by such things."

"The day we feel no ship enters this passageway (Hormuz Strait) for us, we will not allow any ship to enter the Gulf."

Iran in the past has threatened to close down the Hormuz Strait — passageway for one-sixth of the non-Communist world's oil — if it lost its oil export capacity through Iraqi attacks, but this was the first time an Iranian leader has linked the closure to an economic embargo.

"We turn the pressure back on our enemy and will not be crushed under pressure... we declare that any wicked act by the U.S. in the Gulf will get a proportionate response," Mr. Khamenei said.

Announcing the U.S. decision on Monday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan said he had ordered a ban on all Iranian imports and tighter restriction on U.S. exports "in response to the continued and increasingly belligerent behaviour of the Iranian government."

Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi dismissed Washington's measure as directed at domestic opinion and having no adverse effect on the Iranian economy.

An Iranian oil executive told Reuters on Tuesday that the ban would shift Iranian oil to other markets.

PLO seeks summit backing for Lebanon camps

KUWAIT (R) — A top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official was reported on Wednesday as saying that the PLO would call on next month's Arab summit to help end fighting at Lebanon's Palestinian refugee camps.

Salah Khalaf, number two to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, told Al Watan daily the organisation had three goals at the summit opening in Amman on Nov. 8.

The first was a common Arab stance on the Iran-Iraq war, which is expected to be the main concern at the summit.

The second was support for Palestinians in territories occupied by Israel and an end to the three-year-old "camps war" in Lebanon which pits Palestinians against Syrian-backed Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim militiamen.

The third aim was an Arab consensus on a proposed international peace conference on the Middle East.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

am-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664340.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphian Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Palatinate Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816334, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Luweibdi, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661778.

Terrace Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Luweibdi, Tel. 661993.

Goethe Institute: 644203.

Soviet Cultural Centre: 624049.

Spanish Cultural Centre: 624049.

Turkish Cultural Centre: 639777.

Y.W.C.A.: 661816.

Y.W.M.C.A.: 664251.

Amman Municipal Library: 636111.

Univ. of Jordan Library: 843555.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Hays Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

18:15 Agaba (RJ)

18:15 Cairo (RJ)

18:15 Kuwait (RJ)

18:15 Jeddah (RJ)

18:15 Dhahran (RJ)

18:15 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

18:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)

18:15 London, Geneva (RJ)

18:15 Vienna (RJ)

18:15 Cas, Agaba (RJ)

18:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)

18:15 Athens (RJ)

18:15 Rome (RJ)

18:15 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

10:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)

14:00 Baghdad (IA)

14:45 Bahrain, Doha (GF)

16:00 Kuwait (KU)

16:30 Dubai (EK)

16:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)

17:00 Riyadh (SV)

20:25 Cairo (MS)

21:00 Sami (LH)

22:05 Baghdad (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

05:32 Fair

05:32 (Sunrise) Dhahran

12:19 Dhahran

15:21 Asir

17:46 Maghreb

19:47 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Wednesday rates

Local currency rates in Jds

Belgian franc 170.8 / 174.1

Dutch guilder 27.4 / 28.5

French franc 26.6 / 27.1

Japanese yen (for 100) 240.2 / 245.6

Swiss franc 54.2 / 55.2

U.K. sterling pound 576.3 / 586.9

U.S. dollar 339.3 / 344

W. German mark 192.1 / 196.3

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

13:00 Agaba (RJ)

13:10 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

14:00 Kuwait (KU)

14:40 Jeddah (RJ)

15:30 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)

19:35 Cairo (MS)

20:25 Riyadh (SV)

20:25 Sami (LH)

21:05 Frankfurt (LH)

21:05 Paris (AF)

21:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)

00:25 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Agaba (RJ)

11:45 Athens (RJ)

12:30 Frankfurt, London (LH)

13:15 Brussels, Paris (RF)

13:30 Cairo (RJ)

14:00 Larnaca (RJ)

16:35 Kuwait (RJ)

16:35 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

16:35 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

16:35 Jeddah (RJ)

16:35 Abu Dhabi (RJ)

16:35 Cairo (RJ)

21:15 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

WEATHER

A slight increase in temperature is expected. Light and variable winds will become northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman: Min./max. temp. 9/23

Agaba: 16/29

Deserts: 9/25

Jordan Valley: 14/29

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Agaba 28. Humidity readings: Amman 27 per cent, Agaba 28 per cent.

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ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Agaba (RJ)

09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)

09:30 Cairo (RJ)

09:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)

09:30 Kuwait (RJ)

09:40 Jeddah (RJ)

09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

16:30 Cairo (RJ)

17:10 London, Frankfurt (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:55 Jeddah (SV)

13:40 Kuwait (KU)

14:30 Dubai (EK)

15:00 Cairo (MS)

16:35 Abu Dhabi, Doha, Larnaca (GF)

21:00 Frankfurt (LH)

00:25 Cairo, London (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00 Agaba (RJ)

11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

11:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)

12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:25 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KL)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)

10:10 Frankfurt (LH)

14:40 Jeddah (SV)

15:00 Kuwait (KU)

15:30 Bahrain, Sharjah (EK)

15:50 Doha, Bahrain (GF)

16:30 Baghdad (IA)

16:40 Doha, Bahrain (GF)

17:20 Athens (AF)

20:30 Larnaca, Zurich (SR)

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:50 Programme Review

15:55 Cartoons

16:20 Children's programmes

16:50 Children's Scientific Programmes

17:20 Invisible Man

17:30 Health and Life (local)

18:20 Arabic Series

19:25 World News Reports

19:50 Programme Review

20:00 News in Arabic

20:50 A programme on Crown Prince

21:30 Arabic series

22:00 Local varieties programme

22:00 News summary in Arabic

23:10 Arabic film contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les Reves de Jeanne (Cartoon)

18:00 Rue Carnot

18:30 L'aventure des plantes (documentary)

19:00 News in French

19:15 French songs

19:30 News in Hebrew

19:45 Varieties

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Life's Most Embarrassing Moments

21:10 Indelible Evidence

22:00 News in English

22:20 Feature film: "Ghost Story"

Fred Astaire, Melvyn Douglas

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW

Tel. 77411-19

07:00 Light Music

07:30 Newsdesk

08:00 Morning Show

08:30 Morning Show Contd.

11:00 Country Music

11:30 Hitsville: The story of Motown

12:00 News Summary

12:05 News Music

12:30 News Summary

13:05 Pop Session

14:00 News Bulletin

14:10 Instruments

14:30 Discovering Music

15:00 Concert Hour

16:00 News Summary

16:05 Instruments

16:30 Old Favourites

17:30 30 Years of American Top Twenties

17:50 Pop Session

18:00 News Summary

Queen Noor chairs meeting of Jerash Festival committee

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Higher Committee of the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts, called to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the 1987 festival.

The meeting, held at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), tackled the financial and organizational aspects of the festival held last summer, and the extent of its success on all levels.

In addition, the committee members discussed plans for the coming year and the standard of participating troupes.

At the end of the meeting, it was announced that Mr. Akram Masarweh has been appointed as the festival's director-general, succeeding Mr. Michael Hamarneh in this post.

Queen Noor expressed her deep satisfaction with the successes achieved at the festival on the national and international levels, describing it as one of the most prominent cultural activities in the Kingdom.

The Queen urged the committee members to speed up work on the early preparation of general plans for the 1988 festival, so that ample time can be given for marketing its activities.

King condoles EC Commission over Lantini

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday delegated the secretary-general of the Royal Court, Mr. Bassam Al Saket to the European Community (EC) Commission in Amman to offer his condolences on the death of Dr. Romano Lantini, the late head of the delegation.

The speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, also called at the EC delegation, along with heads of diplomatic missions in Amman, to offer sympathies.

Dr. Lantini died in Amman on Monday at the age of 54, after serving as head of the EC delegation since 1984.

A memorial mass was held Wednesday at the chapel of the Italian Hospital. The service was attended by representatives from various diplomatic missions in Jordan and Mr. Mazen Nashashibi, head of the Consular Department at the Foreign Ministry, representing Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri and Mr. Samir Khalifa, head of the Protocol Department, representing the Foreign Ministry.

The body of Dr. Lantini is to be flown to Brussels today, and will be accompanied by an official mission from the Foreign Ministry, led by Mr. Hisham Al Muheisen, ambassador at the ministry.

Rare, delicate inner ear surgery performed

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Electronic devices were implanted in the inner ears of two deaf persons, a Jordanian and a Lebanese, in what is believed to be one of the most delicate and rare operations ever performed in Jordan.

Dr. Jihad Barghouti performed the two operations at Al Khalidi Hospital in Amman on Wednesday. Following the surgery, a hospital spokesman said that the two patients were resting calmly and several days may pass before they can be turned over to the Queen Alia Society for the Hearing Impaired (QASHI) for rehabilitation.

The spokesman told the Jordan Times that the operations were successful, but adjustment of the technical devices, in accordance with a specific programme, will now require the skill of a special engineer, who arrived from West Germany, in order to perform this sensitive task. He said that the adjustment of the technical devices might take until Nov. 15 to be completed.

The two patients were said to have suffered from deafness for some years and had sought help from the QASHI, which is now sponsoring their rehabilitation process.

The QASHI has recently conducted a survey in the Kingdom to determine the number of persons with hearing problems and the degree of deafness from which they suffer. In addition, the society has distributed some 500 hearing aids to people free of charge, in the course of helping them to overcome their handicap.

According to Dr. Barghouti, the operation is called a cochlear implant and entails the insertion of a multi-channel 22 electrode device. He told the Jordan Times that the first operation took seven hours and the second, three hours.

Arab federation to review issues in veterinary medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Federation of Veterinarians will hold their third meeting at the University of Jordan on Saturday, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

More than 100 veterinarians from 12 Arab countries and representatives from four Arab and international organisations will take part in the meetings, during which a host of issues in veterinary medicine will be discussed.

A spokesman for the organisation said that nearly 85 working papers will be reviewed, covering veterinary services in the Arab World, developing veterinary curricula at universities, diseases common to humans and animals, the effects of vaccines and other medicines in dealing with animal diseases, and equipment used in the profession in addition to research work on camels and poultry.

While the meetings are in progress, an exhibition of instruments and other equipment used in the practice of veterinary medicine, supplied by local and international firms, will take place.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) will be among the organisations represented at the symposium.

Industrial exhibit to mark King's birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) will mark His Majesty King Hussein's birthday next month by organising an industrial exhibition at Sabab Industrial City near Amman.

A corporation spokesman said that everything is set for the Nov. 14 opening of the exhibition, in which a large number of Jordanian companies and industrial enterprises will display samples of their products.

The six-day-long exhibition is designed to highlight locally-manufactured products and to encourage consumers to buy these goods, thereby bolstering the national economy.

The spokesman noted that invitations have been sent to embassies, local and foreign organisations operating in Jordan, universities, community colleges, schools and other institutions to visit the exhibition.

Jordan's products will also go on display at the Baghdad International Fair, due to open next Sunday. Altogether, 168 Jordanian firms are taking part in the exhibition, displaying samples of their products, according to Mr. Hilmi Al Lawzi, Jordan's ambassador to Iraq.

Crown Prince urges cooperation between southern Jordan, Sinai

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called for establishing cooperation in various fields between the southern region of Jordan and the governorate of Northern Sinai in Egypt, in order to further develop the two regions.



Arish in Egypt to air ideas and perceptions that could serve development efforts.

The Crown Prince, who is chairman of the board of trustees of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), was speaking during a working session which he chaired on Wednesday. The session included a visiting Egyptian delegation from the Sinai region.

Prince Hassan proposed that seminars be held to discuss specialised working papers on projects that could be carried out in both regions.

He added that concerned authorities in Jordan and Egypt can hold a workshop in Aqaba or

water resources, agriculture, tourism and mineral resources. He also pointed out the similarity of social and geographic conditions of both regions.

Governor of Northern Sinai Major General Munir Shash expressed his deep appreciation to the Crown Prince for his keen interest and brilliant ideas which serve development goals in both countries. Maj-Gen. Shash expressed his hope for even more exchanging of experience between the two countries.

RSS Acting President Jamal Bdour reviewed the development of the RSS, its future projects and its role in national and regional, Arab development.

The joint session was attended by senior RSS officials and members of the Egyptian delegation accompanying Maj-Gen. Shash.

Ministry of Education announces experimental teacher training

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has announced that an experimental course will start at the beginning of the second school term in February to train teachers for the primary and preparatory school stages, as recommended by a national conference on education held last month.

The ministry's secretary-general, Radi Al Waqfi, said that the teachers will be trained first at a centre in Amman; later, branches of this centre will be opened in different parts of the Kingdom.

He said that the teacher-training will take place at community colleges and in accordance with a set programme which entails day and evening classes.

In order to be accepted for these courses, teachers should have completed a preliminary teaching course in a community college. They will be awarded Bachelors of Arts degrees upon

completing these advanced courses, Dr. Waqfi noted.

Dr. Waqfi, who chairs a committee charged with implementing the educational conference's resolutions, said that the committee members have made great progress in carrying out these recommendations.

The announcement followed last Thursday's meeting, held at the Ministry of Higher Education under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, during which the implementation of the conference's resolutions was discussed.

Prince Hassan urged the Ministry of Education to speed up work on the application of Jordan's new educational policy, as charted by the conference, and expressed hope that 1988 will witness the first steps in the implementation of that policy.

The Crown Prince suggested that a team from the Ministry of

Education work out a plan for recruiting and training a group of teachers to instruct students at the elementary stage on an experimental basis. This, he said, could later be expanded to include the other school stages, within a national programme designed to introduce new techniques and methods into the teaching profession.

Dr. Waqfi was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that the Ministry of Education will require at least JD 75 million to set up school buildings, so that the country can end the present two-shift class system and give up rented buildings used as schools.

The plan was one of the conference's resolutions, which also dealt with school curricula and textbooks, scholarships and directing education to serve the needs of the nation.

City team eliminating stray animals

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Dogs are a person's best friend and cats are those cute little furry things that soften our hearts when we see them. But do not be deceived; not all dogs and cats are cute and friendly. This is why the municipality of Amman says it is literally shooting down many of the little creatures.

According to Adnan Abdel Majid, who is in charge of the section carrying out this mission, complaints have been coming in on a daily basis from citizens who are swamped by stray dogs and cats in their neighbourhoods.

"We only eliminate them to reduce health risks from diseases that are communicated from animals to human beings," Dr. Abdel Majid told the Jordan Times Wednesday.

"Although we advise people not to keep pets in their homes, we still respect their decision to continue to do so; but we ask them to abide with health regulations," said Dr. Abdel Majid.

During September of this year, the Greater Amman Municipality has exterminated 82 stray dogs, 31 of which were shot and 51, caught and poisoned. Twenty-four stray cats have also been killed by the department in charge of ridding Greater Amman of stray and sick cats. Dr. Abdel Majid added, however, that "the cases are less now after a campaign in October and November of last year."

The main fear behind leaving stray dogs and cats in the city is the potential transfer of diseases from infected animals to human beings, either through bites, in the case of dogs, and what was described as "worm bags" by Dr. Abdel Majid, in the case of cats.

Cats are being shot with 6 millimetre bullets; larger bullets are used for dogs. The Greater Amman Municipality has now ordered anesthesia shots, which it expects will be available for use within a month.

So far, stray dogs and cats have been shot before any tests were made on the animals to determine whether they were sick or not. But, according to Dr. Abdel Majid, in the case of dogs who have bitten people the head of the dog is brought back to the laboratories for tests to determine if it was diseased. Then, the injured person is immediately informed of the health risks and the precautions which he or she should take.

Supply Ministry will sell rice from storage

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply announced Wednesday that it will begin selling quantities of rice from its storage houses to retailers in the Kingdom as of today, and that interested merchants can approach the ministry for their purchases.

The ministry decision makes available rice from various sources and of different qualities, along with the Egyptian rice already on the market.

There had been complaints from citizens that the Egyptian rice imported by the ministry and sold in the market was of low quality.

The Supply Ministry under-secretary, Abdullah Hawamdeh, denied Tuesday that the Egyptian rice was of low quality and said it conformed with international quality specifications. He said rice imported from Italy and the United States and stored in ministry silos would soon be made available for retail merchants.

A government official later said that although the Egyptian rice was of an acceptable quality, it was barely within the established limits.

Under a barter trade agreement signed last year, Jordan imports 20,000 tonnes of rice from Egypt, in return for Jordanian cement. Jordan consumes nearly 70,000 tonnes of rice a year.

In addition to rice, the ministry has a monopoly on the importation of red meat, sugar, wheat and flour and olive oil.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Hans visits RSS

AMMAN (Petra) — Prince Hans Adam, Liechtenstein's crown prince currently on a visit to Jordan, on Wednesday called at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) where he met with senior officials and was briefed on the society's activities and programmes. The visiting prince toured the various RSS departments and met with their directors. Later, he was briefed on the RSS solar energy research programme.

Sharif Zaid chairs meeting on summit

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting was held at army headquarters on Wednesday, under the chairmanship of Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, to discuss preparations for the extraordinary Arab summit due to open in Amman on Nov. 8. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lieutenant-General Fahd Taleb, the director of the Royal Medical Services, the inspector-general of the Armed Forces and other senior army officers.

Lawzi meets with Suddarth

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi met at his office on Wednesday with Mr. Roscoe Suddarth, newly-appointed United States ambassador to Jordan. At the meeting, the ambassador and Mr. Lawzi reviewed Jordanian-American relations and scopes of cooperation between the two countries in parliamentary affairs.

Market to halt business at summit time

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has decided to suspend business at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) as of Nov. 2 and for nine days, on the occasion of the extraordinary Arab summit. The decision was taken because the market is located within the vicinity of where the summit will be held.

Pharmacists meeting to open here

AMMAN (Petra) — The 11th meeting of the higher council of the Arab Pharmacists Federation will open in Amman on Nov. 24. Subjects related to pharmacy and to the federation's programmes will be reviewed at the meeting.

Joint task force committee assesses reports on floods

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Nearly JD 2 million in material losses and devastation of agricultural land and produce were incurred as a result of the storm and flash floods which struck parts of eastern Jordan 10 days ago, according to well-informed sources.

The sources, close to the work of a joint task force committee entrusted with preparing a report on the losses and damages in the South Shuneh area of Jordan Valley and parts of the Zarqa Governorate, estimated these damages at between JD 1.6 million to JD 2 million.

In an interview with the Jordan Times on Wednesday, Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud described as a "conservative estimate" the figure of JD 6 million elaborated by the sources. He did not elaborate.

Mr. Hmoud, chairman of the committee, kept a tight lid on the team's findings, saying all information and recommendations will be announced after the committee reports their results to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the Cabinet. The committee was formed last Tuesday, after Prince Hassan visited the flood-hit area of South Shuneh.

Due to variations in the geographical location and topographic nature, and to the difference in the economic bases of the areas of Zarqa and South Shuneh — the former's economy is industrial and the latter's, agricultural, damages inflicted by the rain storms and floods differed accordingly.

While seven people reportedly drowned, three others were still missing, and numerous houses, businesses and factories were damaged in Zarqa, as a result of

the flash floods. Almost 40 families were rendered homeless and nearly 6,000 dunums of agricultural land, and large quantities of produce, were totally destroyed in areas around South Shuneh.

The minister chaired a four-hour meeting of the committee on Wednesday, during which final touches were put on a draft report on the findings, as well as recommendations to prevent similar flood damage in the future. The committee will endorse the lengthy report and a short and long-term plans for action on Tuesday. The Crown Prince is expected to receive the full report on Saturday.

Commenting on Wednesday's gathering, the minister said the committee discussed detailed reports on the issue, as submitted by sub-teams consisting of members from the flood-stricken areas of the Balqa and Zarqa governorates and other concerned parties, including the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), the National Aid Fund, and the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

The meeting also evaluated measures so far taken to help farmers and citizens who were affected by the flash-floods and put forward short and long-term working plans and recommendations for responding to future emergencies.

In the aftermath of the floods in both areas several in-kind and financial donations were distributed to affected families.

The report has made a breakdown of names of farmers and people who were affected by the floods and the total number of devastated agricultural lands and produce, in light of field information gathered by the various sub-committees, according to the minister.

The low-income category — the hardest hit by the consequences of floods and natural disasters, the conditions of people affected, and citizens actually eligible for aid — mainly small-scale farmers were identified in the report.

The committee has also put forward criteria for compensation, as well as defining a work plan to prevent dangers from future floods by dividing responsibilities among all parties.

Mr. Hmoud said that the short-term working plan centres on opening and carrying out maintenance on all culverts in the afflicted areas and on strengthening a number of retaining walls to prevent soil erosion.

A specialised seminar will be held "in the near future" to define the nature, concepts and feasibility of setting up a general agricultural insurance company, in a bid to reduce future financial losses caused by natural or weather disasters, said Mr. Hmoud. "We need to develop a comprehensive framework and concept for establishing this specialised insurance scheme through the help of various concerned authorities and people involved in the scheme," said Mr. Hmoud.

This scheme, suggested by Prince Hassan last Tuesday, has received warm welcome from all people involved in the agricultural sector, as well as officials from the financial bodies and the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply.

Bilad Al Shaam sessions end with recognition of attempts at revision

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The third symposium "The History of Greater Syria during the Umayyad Period" of the Fourth International Conference of Bilad Al Shaam ended its deliberations here Wednesday with the final working sessions.

The 40 odd papers discussed during the working sessions are considered by one of the prominent participants, historian Nicola Zaidah, as "attempts to sift through our history and reconstruct it." According to Dr. Zaidah, the past four conferences on Bilad Al Shaam "do not fill in all the gaps. It will be many years and many conferences before a good, honest history on the area is produced."

He referred to the working papers as well-researched, solid papers on specific subjects. "However, these papers are like the stones needed for construction. The papers need chopping to fit in together, and other papers are needed to fill in the gaps; mortar is not enough," he said.

There is a need to work on a blueprint to have the proper person address the proper subject, Dr. Zaidah added. Still, he does not expect a 100 per cent reliable structural history in the future. "No history can be written that way. We can only improve, improve greatly on what we have now," he stressed.

The first of the five papers

presented on Wednesday morning was by Jordan's Dr. Mohammad Khreisat on "The role of Ghassan in General Life during the Islamic Period." He was followed by Dr. Salah Al Din Othman Hashim from Sudan, who delivered a paper on "Slaves in Bilad Al Shaam during the Umayyad Period."

The third paper, "The fate of Christians in Palestine during the Byzantine-Umayyad transition, A.D. 600-750," was discussed by Dr. Robert Schick from the U.S.

From Al Najah University in the West Bank, Dr. Abdul Muneim Jaber Abu Kahouk presented a paper on "Christian Religious debate: Islam in the Umayyad Period and its Effects on Dogmatic Theology."

On Tuesday, eight papers were discussed. From Lebanon, Dr. Radwan Sayed spoke on "Caliphate and reign: A Study of the Umayyad Vision," followed by Dr. Nabih Akel from Syria, who delivered a paper entitled "Birth of the Political Parties and the Legitimacy of Regimes."

A scholar from Japan, Dr. Goto Akira, presented a paper on "Marwan B. Al Hakam, his Supporters and his Boy." Also presented were: A paper entitled "Jabiyeh Conference: A Study in the Advent of Caliph Ibn Marwan" by Dr. Ibrahim Baydoun from Lebanon; "The Ceremonies of the Caliphate" by Dr. Abdel Al Amin Dakessan from Iraq; "The Syrian Military Harbour and its Role in the Jihad (struggle) during the Umayyad Period" by Omar Abdel Al Salam Tadmari from Lebanon; "The Syrian Army Elements, Mobilisation and Command" by Dr. Najedeh Kamash from Syria; and "Observations on Warfare between Byzantium and Umayyad Syria" by Dr. Walter Emil Kaegi.

Nine papers related to the history of Greater Syria were discussed on Monday. They included: "Provisional Administration," also by Dr. Kamash; "Administrative and Military Institutions in Bilad Al Shaam during the Umayyad Period" by Dr. Zaidah from Lebanon; "Landownership in Bilad Al Shaam during the Umayyad Period" by Dr. Jamal Judeh from Al Najah University in the West Bank; "Observation in the Diwan Al Kharaj and the Assessment of Taxes in Umayyad Syria" by Dr. Ulrich Rebatuck from West Germany; and "Highlights from Papyrological Sources of the Umayyad Administration" by Dr. Mustapha Al Abaddi from Kuwait.

During the afternoon session, the papers presented were by scholars from Jordan. They were: the first "Contributions of Syrian Reader in the Umayyad Period in Early linguistics" by Dr. Abdel Al Fattah Al Hamoud; "Ibn Amer's Recital: Its Sources and the Stand of Grammarians towards it" by Mahmoud Hussein Mahmoud; and "The Track of Syrian Haj during the Umayyad Period" by Dr. Salah Daradakeh.

Aqaba Region Authority to upgrade city's old quarters with UDD help

AQABA (Petra) — The Aqaba Region Authority (ARA) is currently putting the finishing touches on preparations for a construction project at the Al Shallah and the old quarter districts in the port city, from which nearly 40 per cent of the local population will benefit.

ARA President Bassam Oqash said that work on the project will begin towards the end of this year, now that an agreement has been signed with the Urban Development Department (UDD) to assist in its implementation.

This project is part of the UDD's third scheme in the Kingdom, Mr. Oqash noted.

In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Oqash said that UDD will carry out the project starting from the northern areas of the Shallah district, moving towards the south. The first stage of the project entails building new homes and developing the old quarters. The second

stage of the project will start by the beginning of 1989, Mr. Oqash noted.

The new housing units will be supplied with utilities, health centres and other basic services, he added.

Those who will be forced to give up their homes to make way for opening new streets and installing public services will be granted new, modern homes in Aqaba, Mr. Oqash pointed out. According to the ARA president, the new housing estates will have at least two large schools for boys and girls, health centres, postal services and other utilities.

Referring to the recent flooding of the old quarter, Mr. Oqash said that the floods were due largely to the lack of canals and dykes along side the roads. He noted that this problem also threatens the dilapidated homes in the old quarter.

Mr. Oqash said that work is underway to transform Al

Hafayer district, along the coast, into a holiday beach. The project is expected to be complete by the end of 1987.

Mr. Oqash said that he sensed an improvement in the tourist business in Aqaba, and that the business will be boosted shortly by the arrival of tourist groups from Finland, in accordance with an agreement concluded by the Royal Jordanian and tourist offices in Helsinki.

The Finnish tourists will be coming in groups on weekly flights during the coming winter season, according to the agreement. ARA is going ahead with plans to provide all essential tourist facilities for the visiting groups, Mr. Oqash added.

He said that, at the same time, work is underway for building roads encircling the city of Aqaba as part of an effort to prevent traffic congestion at the northern entries to the city and to reduce the number of car accidents.

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Superpowers play dangerous game

PRESIDENT RONALD Reagan and Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, are obviously playing a brinkmanship game over the proposed INF treaty and their anticipated summit. Much euphoria was generated last summer when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, struck a stunning deal in Washington for the elimination of short and medium-range nuclear missiles from their respective arsenals. The good will generated by the agreement between them to scrap such a system of weapons propelled high expectations that a Reagan-Gorbachev summit was in the works, and that it would not be long before the two leaders would sit down to seal the proposed treaty to remove short and medium-range nuclear missiles from the surface of the earth, in addition to discussing other international issues, including the Palestinian problem and the Iran-Iraq war. The recent visit to Moscow by Mr. Shultz, however, was shrouded with gloom and dismay after the two sides announced that they were still far apart on whether to inject the controversial U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) into the ongoing negotiations on the proposed INF treaty. Now, Moscow seems to have seized the initiative by sending Mr. Shevardnadze to Washington with a message to Mr. Reagan. However, the two superpowers appear to be far apart on fundamental issues. While the U.S. contends that the SDI would make the world safer by making nuclear weapons obsolete, the Soviet Union asserts that such a system of defence would only herald an arms race in space. Meanwhile, the world is holding its breath with great anxiety and anticipation lest the last thread of hope to maintain the right track towards nuclear disarmament break.

Humankind has every right to ask the superpower leaders to maintain the momentum of détente until the world is freed from the nuclear threat. A summit between Reagan and Gorbachev is also an international demand since what is at stake is not only the bilateral relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union; but, rather, other issues that affect the rest of the world. The superpowers have special responsibilities towards the community of states as a whole, in addition to their duties to their own respective peoples. By virtue of their extraordinary powers, they have become the controllers of the destiny of the world. Seen from this perspective, it would be disastrous if their brinkmanship game continues to the detriment of the rest of the international community. The superpower leaders will derelict their duties to the world if they frustrate the aspiration to conclude the much negotiated treaty to ban short and medium-range missiles. The conclusion of such a treaty would be a mere beginning in the long road towards the elimination of all nuclear arsenals from the surface of the earth.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Shultz' cover-up

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tried to cover up for his failure in his talks with Soviet officials in Moscow by coming up with justifications that are clearly designed to hide the facts. This position has clearly proved that Washington is not serious about a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting and attaches no importance to it. In trying to cover up for his failure, Shultz said that Moscow had gone back on its previously declared date and venue for a meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev, but he failed to mention explicitly that Washington wanted to have the meeting between the two leaders without ample preparations at a lower level. Such attitude clearly depicts Washington's behaviour towards various world issues and various conflicts. This attitude is simply a message to the world that a summit meeting between the superpowers was not important as long as Washington feels it is the superpower of the world and that it can dominate the world's destiny. Such mentality and this superiority complex does not reflect a desire for world peace and peaceful coexistence. Such behaviour can never reflect a desire on the part of Washington to embark on meaningful and serious action for improving world conditions and putting an end to all sources of danger and war. If Washington is not interested in holding a summit meeting with Moscow, then it is reasonable to think that it cannot be concerned over world issues like the Middle East or the Gulf conflict. Washington believes that it can alone provide solutions for world problems without any participation from any other parties.

Al Dustour: Egypt concerned for Arab problems

IN an interview President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt had with this newspaper it was clear that Egypt is closely following up developments in the Arab World and that it is keen on maintaining its link with the Arab countries and cooperate with their leaders. The president showed that Cairo was specifically concerned over the Gulf war and the current developments in the Gulf region which is now witnessing an escalation of tension leading towards destruction. Mubarak had issued one warning after another that the Gulf problem entails serious danger, threatening the whole Arab Nation — something which warrants a unified Arab action and solidarity among Arab leaders. He urged the Arabs to rally together in the face of the common external danger and to stop the war from spilling over to other countries in the Gulf. The president showed that he was looking with confidence and hope to the coming Arab summit meeting next month where the leaders of the Arab Nation will be able to discuss all problems plaguing their countries and threatening their future generations. The Egyptian president laid emphasis to the fact that once the Arab leaders have put aside their small differences and pooled their efforts and their resources, they are bound to achieve success. We share with Mubarak his views and his aspirations about the coming summit, and hope that the Arab leaders would rise to the level of responsibility and embark on measures to deal with the common dangers.

A new focus for U.S. foreign policy

By Robert Olsen

THE MOST notable change in the focus of United States foreign policy since the second world war may well take place in the coming decade, and in an area that has generally not ranked high in U.S. foreign policy priorities over the past 45 years — the Middle East. The major tenet of U.S. foreign policy during the last half century has been anti-Communism and thus anti the Soviet Union. But the two *antis* are not necessarily coterminous: U.S. anti-Communism also applied to countries not dominated by the USSR, and included Europe (especially in the 1950's and '60s) and the Third World.

Another focus of American foreign policy which has been pursued since the second world war is anti-nationalism, especially in the Third World, but not excluding Europe. In most instances during this period, the U.S. attempted to depict nationalist movements as Communist-inspired, whether they were or not. Only in this decade has the U.S. begun to favour bona fide nationalism, but not necessarily nationalism, governments in order to prevent or impede nationalist, and generally leftist, oriented movements from assuming power. It must be stressed, however, that the national governments in Central and Latin America and in South and Southeast Asia which the U.S. supports are bourgeois, pluralist governments that have agreed to cooperate and to participate in the world capitalist economy dominated by the U.S., Europe and Japan.

But this focus of U.S. foreign policy has been challenged by the Iranian revolution. First, the Iranian revolution has developed into a bona fide nationalist revolution. It is also a religious revolution with appeal beyond its national (Iranian), ethnic (Persian-speaking) and sectarian (Shi'ite) boundaries. Although the Iranian ethnic component of the revolution may act as a restraint on its appeal to some groups in the Middle East and in the Islamic world, its nationalist elements appeal to some of the very groups who may not like its ethnic components. One of the strengths of the Iranian revolution is its multi-faceted appeal which balances some of its detractors.

All of these factors, and there are many more, present problems for American and European foreign policy makers. The Iranian revolution can in no way be depicted as Communist led or inspired — either by Moscow or internally. Neither can the revolution be depicted as "godless." Try as they might, it is difficult for the U.S. and Europe to extricate Islam from the Abrahamic religious tradition. Attempts to depict Iran and/or Shi'ism in pejorative terms — satanic and barbaric — cannot fully suppress the public perception that the Iranian revolution is, in many ways, a religious revolution. The American public is still not yet psychologically disposed, despite three decades of anti-Arab propaganda, to suppress religiously inspired revolutions or national movements as readily as Communist or supposedly Communist-supported revolutions. Iran has an advantage over the Sandinistas in this regard.

The American, and to some extent European, dilemma in the late 1980s and early 1990s will be to conjure a policy that will suppress or contain a revolution which is: 1) religiously based and pro-God; 2) anti-Communist; and 3) one whose nationalism is strongly based on both the above; i.e., the U.S. and Europe must constrain, limit, and, if possible, suppress or destroy a government which professes and upholds the two major focuses of American and European foreign policy for the last 50 years, if not since 1917. It is unlikely that the Soviet Union would do much to prevent an American or NATO assault on Iran. This would make it clear to the whole world that religious-nationalist revolutions are even more of a threat to the West than Communist inspired revolutions or national movements. One wonders how the non-Western and Third World countries will view these developments.

It seems that a fourth focus may now well be added to the anti-Communist, anti-Soviet, anti-nationalist/leftist tenets of American and European foreign policy — anti Islamism. The Muslim guest workers in Europe and the rising challenges of countries such as Turkey could add to the anti-Muslim sentiment in Europe. The Arab-Israeli conflict and the powerful pro-Israel, pro-Jewish, and Jewish nationalism that it has spawned in the U.S.

has paved the way for an anti-Islamic policy. Indeed, the public seems more in favour of an anti-Islamic policy than some governments. While the Iranians may be the present objective, the anti-Arab, anti-terrorist (read Arab), anti-Palestinian sentiments are now so firmly rooted that an anti-Islamic focus could serve the foreign policy objectives of the U.S., Europe and Israel for the next decade or two. An anti-Islamic focus would be given greater prominence by a Soviet Union concerned more with its domestic agenda.

It seems unlikely, that the U.S. and Europe will launch a sustained military assault on Iran over the issues of the Iran-Iraq war and its spillover into the Gulf. However, a sustained political assault by Iran on Saudi Arabia, which is bound to increase in the months ahead, could change this prognosis. It is somewhat ironic that the U.S. and Europe could see it in their interest to intervene militarily on the side of Saudi Arabia and the Arabs, who after a century of being weakened by their struggle against Zionism, might prove unable to confront the political, religious and, most important, nationalist attacks of Iran. It is a further irony that the Arab World "softened" by a century of confrontation and challenge by Zionism which was avidly supported by the U.S. and Europe, now must seek the aid of those same Americans and Europeans if it is to be able to withstand the challenge of Iranian Islamic nationalism.

Saudi Arabian Wahhabism, a rather late claimant to the legitimacy of the Islamic *Umma*, seems particularly vulnerable to a sustained religious-political attack. It will demand a firm response — Middle East International, London.

Islamic Jihad taking lead in Palestinian resistance

By Paul Taylor
Reuter

GAZA — Four Islamic fundamentalists killed in a gunbattle with Israeli occupation troops in the Gaza Strip this month have become new heroes of the Palestinian resistance.

Their pictures, clipped from the Palestinian press, are displayed in many homes. The exploits of their shadowy group, Islamic Jihad (holy war), have captured the imagination of young slum-dwellers in this teeming coastal strip.

Even a veteran secular left-wing nationalist leader like Dr. Haidar Abdul Shafi, head of the Gaza Red Crescent Society whose premises were burned down by Muslim militants in 1981, speaks with admiration of the new Islamic fighters.

"The fact that these escaped prisoners opted to stay on and fight rather than run away certainly made a strong impression on the people," he said. "The Jihad has distinguished itself in fighting the occupation."

Four Islamic Jihad gunmen, including two who escaped from Gaza prison in May, were killed on October 6 in a shootout in which an Israeli Shin Bet security service undercover agent also died.

The Israelis have since arrested more than 50 Jihad suspects, found a big underground weapons cache and alleged that the group was behind almost every major attack in the Gaza Strip in the last year.

These included the assassination of the head of the Israeli military police in Gaza City, an ambush on a convoy of Israeli security men in the Jabalya refugee camp and the killing of several Israeli civilians.

Virtually unknown a year ago, Islamic Jihad has become the most active force fighting the occupation in Gaza and has also mounted attacks in the occupied

West Bank, Palestinian and Israeli sources say.

Yet the group has no avowed leaders, no public organisation at home or abroad and no clear programme. Followers say it has no connection with the Shi'ite Muslim group of the same name holding Western hostages in Lebanon.

Israeli security sources say Jihad members mostly get their arms, training and funds from Fateh, the main group in the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

But the fighters are provided by a new generation of Sunni Muslim activists who grew up under Israeli occupation.

Experts say Islamic Jihad's strength lies in its appeal to traditional religious values, its rejection of any compromise with Israel and the West and its spirit of self-sacrifice.

"When nationalism becomes affiliated to Islam, it becomes more effective," says Dr. Mohammed Siam, acting head of Gaza's 5,000-student Islamic University.

Three of the Islamic Jihad fighters were students in the faculty of religion and their deaths sparked 10 days of protests in which students and schoolchildren stoned Israeli army troops, built street barricades and burned tyres.

Siam cited three causes of the growth of Islamic resistance in Gaza: A tradition of fundamentalism linked to the Muslim Brotherhood in neighbouring Egypt, the failure of secular nationalism and pan-Arabism to weaken Israel and disillusionment with the Soviet Union and the Palestinian left.

Muslim fundamentalists dominate the student unions at Gaza and Hebron universities and are increasingly challenging secular nationalists for control of other West Bank campuses.

As'ad Saffawi, father of a Gaza escapee who is still on the run,

described how his 23-year-old son turned to fundamentalism after being jailed at the age of 15 and wound up in the Jihad.

"Imad and his friends tried to live out the teachings and the lifestyle of the Prophet literally," Saffawi told Reuters.

"Soon they were working in the underground. They saw no alternative to violence. They thought the PLO was too weak and was going soft on the Israelis," he said.

Last December, Imad Saffawi was arrested and charged with involvement in the stabbing to death of three Israelis in Gaza. He escaped from prison before his trial was completed.

The impoverished, overcrowded Gaza Strip, home to 650,000 stateless Palestinians with no future but low-paid manual labour in Israel, is a fertile breeding ground for such fighters.

By the age of 16, many have stoned occupation troops, tasted tear gas, seen army bullets fly and possibly spent a spell in an Israeli prison camp.

Detention gives them a sense of identity and comradeship and a basic training in fighting the occupation. To have been in Israeli custody is a badge of honour for many a young Gazan.

"They go into that prison camp as uncertain schoolkids and come out as hardened fighters. The Israelis are unwittingly running a school for Palestinian guerrillas," said an international relief worker in Gaza.

A senior Jerusalem Muslim leader, Sheikh As'ad Bayud Tamimi, the imam of Al Aqsa Mosque, wrote in a recent article in an Egyptian religious magazine: "The birth of the Islamic Jihad (in Palestine) is the outcome of a divine act... The Jihad sweeps away the state of the Jews and the infidelity it represents."

Many Palestinians and some Israeli experts say Israel has only itself to blame for the rise of

Islamic fundamentalism, which is now turning against the occupation.

They say the Israelis actively encouraged the Muslim revival in Gaza and the West Bank to counter secular nationalism, perceived as the greatest threat to the Jewish state.

For example the Israelis helped increase the number of Mosques in the Gaza Strip from 70 in 1967 to 180 today.

For years Islamic organisations and charities have been allowed to receive money from abroad while funds for nationalist bodies were barred.

"In some ways, we fuelled this fire ourselves," said an Israeli security source.

The fundamentalist trend is now so strong that some youths who enter prison as secular Fateh supporters emerge as Islamic militants.

Israeli security officials are alarmed by the mounting Islamic fervour of Arab resistance.

In August, they uncovered an apparent Islamic Jihad plot to detonate a truck bomb in Jerusalem's government quarter, the first known attempt at a suicide bombing in Palestine.

"It's a threatening phenomenon," said General Amran Mitzna commander of the Israeli army in the occupied West Bank. "The religious awakening is menacing and worry us all."

Islamic Jihad first made news in October 1986 when three fighters carried out a grenade attack on Israeli infantry recruits returning from a ceremony at Jerusalem's Wailing Wall. One person died and 70 were injured.

The attackers claimed to be following the tradition of the Prophet Mohammad, who in the early days of Islam defeated two Jewish tribes at the battle of Khaiber in the year 628.

"Jews, beware, Mohammad's army from Khaiber is returning," they chanted in rhyming Arabic at their trial.

Mubarak: Iran poses threat to all Arabs

(Continued from page 1)

from "certain" Arab countries which he did not name.

"We should not discount any possibility," Mr. Mubarak said.

He repeated the Iranian political demonstrations at the Holy City of Mecca during the last pilgrimage season and said "Khomeini's moves in Arab and Islamic countries such as the Mecca rioting... (mean that) it is high time to learn the lessons."

Mr. Mubarak urged the Arabs to work out unified strategies on the issues that concern them and agree on united goals and how to

implement them.

The Egyptian leader says he has urged the Arabs to meet, even if it were without Egypt, to work out "a consistent strategy for maintaining pan-Arab security."

He said it was not necessary to have "Arab unity as some want," but that it would suffice to have a cohesive bond like that within the Organisation of African Unity or the European Community.

Asked about his country's relations with Syria, Mr. Mubarak replied, "I respect President (Hafez Al) Assad because I knew

him for a long time before he assumed presidency... I still extend my hand to him and to Syria as an Arab state hoping that we may reach a reconciliation that serves the objectives of the Arab Nation."

When asked what he expected the superpowers' behaviour in the Gulf to be, Mr. Mubarak said: "We should be realistic in recognising that they have their own interests."

Mr. Mubarak, reelected earlier this month for a second six-year term, said he had at one point decided not present himself as a candidate.

Moscow revives hopes for superpower summit

(Continued from page 1)

were continuing with U.S. officials, TASS said.

U.S. presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Mr. Shultz and Mr. Shevardnadze would focus on the nearly completed INF treaty as well as negotiations to curb strategic weapons and a possible summit meeting.

In New York, Mr. Reagan said Wednesday he was "ready to continue and intensify our negotiations" with the Soviet Union. But he added that a summit was not a precondition for progress on U.S.-Soviet relations.

In a speech prepared for delivery to cadets at the U.S. military academy, Mr. Reagan said that

when Mr. Gorbachev was ready to visit the United States "I and the American people will welcome him."

Soviet aides in Washington and Moscow said Mr. Gorbachev was looking for a way to improve chances for a summit this year.

The summit had been widely anticipated until last week when Mr. Shultz said Mr. Gorbachev told him the Soviet leader was not comfortable in agreeing then to a summit without concessions on Mr. Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI) research on an anti-missile defence.

Mr. Shultz said over the weekend that U.S. officials might lose patience and turn cool to a

summit themselves if Mr. Gorbachev did not agree to one soon.

But a Gorbachev aide was quoted by the New York Times as saying the Soviet leader was prepared to meet Mr. Reagan to sign an INF agreement if Mr. Reagan was only willing to fully discuss defensive and long-range missiles.

It quoted the aide, Anatoly Dobrynin, Mr. Gorbachev's top foreign policy adviser, as saying: "There were no preconditions for a summit meeting other than Reagan's willingness to discuss in full questions of defensive weapons and deep cuts in long-range missiles."

Iraq ends lull in Gulf war

(Continued from page 1)

an offensive, political sources say.

One said an unusual calm prevailing over the war front was probably "the calm that precedes the tempest."

INA said Mr. Ramadan would discuss in Bahrain preparations for the Nov. 8 Arab League summit in Amman.

Mr. Ramadan met with the emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn

Salman Al Khalifa and delivered to him a message from President Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Ramadan earlier this week delivered messages from the Iraqi president to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the emir of Kuwait.

"The contents of the messages have not been divulged," but Mr. Ramadan has been quoted as saying that "an honourable Arab stand" would force Iran to drop its objection to a peaceful settlement in the war.

LETTERS

A word from the critic

To the Editor:

I HAVE been reading Randa Habib's articles and enjoying them. Yet I was alarmed by her attitude towards monuments (Jordan Times, Monday, Oct. 19, 1987).

If one monument, the stone wheel and the water fountain in the Second Circle put her off (the only reason why such a monument looks bad is the bad composition, i.e. the positioning of the wheel too close to the edge of the round about) I think she ought to have more maturity than to discard sculpture altogether and more constructive goodwill, considering the fact that our country is in dire need of creativity and innovation and our artist in need of bread. As far as encouraging plantation, I am all for it.

Nelly Lama (Art critic)
Amman.

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Clues to history in ruins of Ugarit

BY John Rice
The Associated Press

RAS SHAMRA, Syria — A great city died here in flames and fear.

Flames melted limestone to lime, and fear scattered scribes from the ovens where they baked their clay tablets. They never returned.

Nobody knows if an earthquake or war caused the conflagration that drove out Ugarit's people 3,100 years ago.

But the thousands of tablets they left amid the ruins have helped modern researchers trace the origins of the Bible and the history of writing itself.

"It is difficult to exaggerate their importance," said Frank Moore Cross, professor of Near Eastern languages and civilisation at Harvard University. "They give us the literature, the mythology, the religion of the Canaanite culture ... which is the background out of which the Israelite religion emerges."

"It permits us to put Biblical literature in its original context, perhaps better than any other single major find in the ancient Near East," he added in a telephone interview.

Cross said the discovery of the tablets "is on a par of importance with the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls."

More mundane letters were found as well. "Do not tell your wife where you hide your money," wrote one ancient scribe.

The source of this discovery is an unimposing little hill rising from the citrus orchards of Ras Shamra, 11 kilometres north of Latakia along Syria's Mediterranean coast.

Excavations that have continued since 1929 have revealed a city of narrow, winding streets and sturdy stone walls, of great palaces enriched by a trade in gold, ivory, oil, wine and other goods.

Lizards scamper across the dusty stones where, according to site director Ismail Abdul Haq, as many as 80,000 people once lived.

Although the Mediterranean beach resort of Al Shatt Al Azraq is only two kilometres away, Abdul Haq said that on some days, only 20 people visit the sprawling site.

He guides them through the remnants of massive, two-storey palaces, and into an arched tomb

of finely-cut stones.

In its heyday, at the end of the Bronze Age, about 1500 to 1200 B.C., Ugarit was one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, according to archaeologists.

Ugarit traded with the Mesopotamian cultures to the east, with Egypt to the south and with Cyprus and Greece to the west.

"They were everywhere along the Mediterranean coast," said Afif Bannassi, Syria's director of antiquities.

He said they had close links with the Aegean islands and their kings intermarried with Egyptian royalty.

Ugarit's Canaanite culture was an immediate forerunner of the Phoenician cities that sent traders and colonists far across the Mediterranean.

The tablets found at Ugarit, written in one of the world's earliest alphabets, gave historians a portrait of the Baal-worshipping Canaanite religion that the Hebrew tribes contended with when they arrived in Palestine shortly after Ugarit was destroyed.

The texts show poetic forms — and occasionally subjects — highly similar to those used later in the Bible, and references to the

god El, whom the Hebrews sometimes identified with Yahweh, or Elohim.

Although Syrian officials often say that Ugarit's alphabet was the world's first, Cross said other, related systems had been developed in the region a few hundred years earlier.

The Ugaritic alphabet was formed from combinations of triangular-shaped cuneiform symbols pressed into clay.

Not long after Ugarit, the Phoenicians of the Syrian and Lebanese coasts developed an earlier system into a series of lines and squiggles that has evolved into the modern alphabet used to write this story.

Cross said he had at least one regret the Ugaritic method was abandoned.

"If the cuneiform alphabet had flourished, we'd have had far more ancient documents. The papyrus (used by later systems) hasn't survived, but the clay tablet is indestructible."

Even so, he said alphabet charts found at Ugarit helped prove that the order and names of letters in the alphabet have remained the same from its invention until the present day.

Human volunteers now testing potential AIDS vaccine

By Eilan Cates
Reuters

WEST HAVEN, Connecticut — A possible AIDS vaccine developed by a little-known biopharmaceutical company is being tested on the first human volunteers in a pioneering study.

Microgenex burst forth from obscurity to become the first — and so far the only — company to win approval from the Food and Drug Administration to conduct human trials of its vaccine.

The first group of homosexual volunteers was vaccinated the first week of October, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

NIAID is supervising the testing at its clinical centre in Bethesda, Maryland.

So far, Fauci said, the volunteers have experienced no adverse effects. "We cannot make a projection from that, however," Fauci said.

Microgenex was founded in 1983 by immunobiologist Franklin Volovitz to develop vaccines and genetically engineered pesticides.

The privately held concern in this small Connecticut town employs just 30 people, has yet to bring a product to market, and has no major corporate backer.

Yet its experimental vaccine, grown in insect cells, made leading AIDS researchers in the country take notice. It produced surprisingly good antibody responses against the AIDS virus in laboratory animals. The next step was to try it on humans.

"There really isn't any danger from the vaccine in terms of a health risk," Volovitz said. He stressed that the vaccine does not contain the AIDS virus, but a purified protein produced by insects that mimics the surface protein on the AIDS virus.

The only side effect volunteers should anticipate, Volovitz said, was some soreness at the site of the injection.

NIAID has released little information about this experiment. It has declined to disclose the number of volunteers vaccinated or exactly when they received the injections.

"We don't want to build false hopes, and we don't want the volunteers harassed," NIAID spokesman Sandy Hecker ex-

plained.

"A total of 60-AIDS-free male homosexuals will be injected with the experimental vaccine over the next six months."

Volunteers must be homosexuals who have either been in a monogamous relationship with an uninfected partner or who have been celibate for the past three months. They must agree to practise "safe sex" while in the study. Volovitz called the volunteers "somewhat altruistic" for subjecting themselves to the experiment.

While he contended there was no immediate health risk, he pointed out that volunteers could face social and economic discrimination, for once the volunteers have received the vaccine, they will always test positive on the standard Elisa test for the AIDS virus, he said.

Under another test, however, the less-used western blot analysis, volunteers would be able to prove they were not AIDS-infected.

"They are very well aware of the possibility of discrimination," Fauci said. "We are trying to counter that."

Volunteers each receive a letter with a notary's seal attached to a copy of his western blot, explaining that he is part of the NIAID experiment, Fauci said.

He said NIAID made calls to insurance companies and employers to see if they would respect this documentation, and they agreed they would.

Travel overseas could present problems, though, since several countries refuse to allow anyone testing positive for AIDS to cross their borders.

If the Microgenex vaccine proved promising and the tests were widened, Fauci said volunteers would be provided with a credit card with a hologram to prevent a black market from developing. Fauci said NIAID was already working on such a plan with the Bureau of Engraving.

Other possible health risks to volunteers might include an allergic reaction to insect bites, because the vaccine carries traces of insect protein, or another possible reaction by the immune system.

In addition, volunteers may not be able to receive another kind of AIDS vaccine in the future. It is possible a second vaccine might provoke an antibody response.

Randa Habib's Corner

Rain to order

DID YOU know that an agreement was signed this week between the Department of Meteorology and an American company for cloud seeding to induce rain?

I find this amazing. To be able, by dispersing chemical substances into the atmosphere, to induce rainfall. Imagine that, from now on, we can have rain on order. Committees would meet and decide on how many rainy days we will have this winter season. I wonder if it would be possible to have five rainy days and a sunny, warm weekend. That would be thoughtful. Maybe rain will be distributed in certain parts of the country on certain days. Maybe we will have rain, for example, in Shmeisani when it is sunny in Jabal Al Hussein, or rain in Jabal Al Hussein when it is sunny in Jabal Amman, and so on. A shift system would have to be worked out in order to be fair to everybody. It should also be possible for people to have special requests. If someone has a party and wishes his or her guests to arrive comfortable without being showered, he or she can apply for a clear day over his or her garden.

One can go on and on with such fantasies. But the best thing about this new agreement is that one can now rest assured that the Department of Meteorology will get its forecast right. After all, it is the department itself that would "rain" on us and it would be a shame if they made messy forecasts.

African women still getting a poor deal

By Brian Killen
Reuters

DAKAR — African women are delivering hard-hitting speeches, forming cooperatives, and demanding recognition.

But the world feminist hardly exists in Africa and some delegates at meetings organised by the Socialist International in Senegal this month preferred to be known as female militants.

Visiting activists from the Socialist International women movement nevertheless had no doubt that they were meeting kindred spirits getting a particularly raw deal from Third World society.

Senegalese Minister for Social Development Mantoouye Guene, one of three women in the Socialist cabinet of President Abdou Diouf, made an impassioned speech in which she said women were the most important part of society.

The minister, wearing a magnificent traditional robe with a matching turban, struck a more moderate tone later in an interview with Reuters, saying that women and men were complementary.

Women were especially important to rural communities, she said. U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation statistics showed that 42 per cent of farmers in 82 selected countries were women and the figure was probably higher for Africa.

A working day of 14 hours was not uncommon, for example, for

women in the Senegalese communities of Bambey, Diourbel, or Thiès to the east of the capital Dakar.

Socialist International delegates visiting these areas marvelled at show-piece women's cooperative groups.

"The women of Africa have always run Africa. It is the men who have not been prepared to accept it," British member of parliament Gwyneth Dunwoody said.

Fatoumata Ka, president of the Senegalese Socialist Party women's movement, described the cooperative groups as an example of what women could contribute to development.

One of the cooperatives, 324 strong, was formed in June 1985 with the aim of getting women more involved in the economy.

"They want economic independence and to improve the quality of their lives," Dunwoody said. The women, mostly married with large families, grow sweet potatoes, beans and other vegetables on a few acres of land and sell their produce on local markets at healthy profits.

They are also experts at sewing, embroidery and dyeing.

Anita Gradin, Swedish foreign trade minister and president of Socialist International Women, said African women were the backbone of economic development.

"We have seen how Senegalese women fight against drought and desertification and their labour is never appreciated," Gradin said.

Teaching teachers in northern Pakistan

By Josephine MacFadden

Since 1984 a dedicated Pakistani professor has been helping school teachers in the isolated northern reaches of his country to do their jobs better. An evaluation team describes the experimental training programme he operates for the Aga Khan Foundation as "extremely useful" and worthy of replication elsewhere. The following article is reprinted from the magazine of the Canadian International Development and Research Centre, IDRC Reports.

PROFESSOR Mubarak Hussain Shah's enthusiasm and commitment to his work are paying off. He has lived in the northern Pakistani city of Gilgit and has run the Field Based Teacher Training Programme from there since 1984.

"After my initial demonstration class," he explains, "I gather the teachers-in-training for their first impressions of the new teaching methods I have been demonstrating. 'What are the differences?' I ask them. It usually takes them a few moments before one will say, 'There's no stick.' 'Exactly!' I say. Then I have them."

"They can't help noticing that I have achieved discipline and an atmosphere of participation and learning without the use of physical violence, or the traditional method of unison chanting of information."

The experimental training



Pakistani teachers are advancing beyond the traditional philosophy of 'spare the rod, spoil the child' (Photo by Jean-Luc Ray)

programme is jointly sponsored by the Aga Khan Foundation and the Pakistani Department of Education. The Aga Khan institutions began working in the northern areas of Pakistan in 1945 when, with the help of a large donation from its Ismaili leadership, it opened several schools. Since then it has worked diligently to fulfill its leader's instructions to educate children, especially girls for whom there were previously no schools at all.

The northern areas are rugged and isolated. They lie at the intersection of four of the world's highest mountain ranges — the Himalayas, Karakoram, Pamirs, and Hindu Kush — and border Afghanistan, the USSR, China,

and India. About 90 per cent of the population lives by subsistence farming, and the literacy rate of 10 per cent is less than half the national average.

Gilgit is the main-city of the northern areas. Until the paving of the historic silk road to China in the past decade, it was isolated — except for the intrepid traveller willing to follow the winding dirt road suspended on the cliffs high above the Indus River. An airstrip has given mountaineers and other tourists access to the region, but fog often disrupts flights.

A research team from the Quaid-i-Azam University was funded by IDRC to evaluate the field-based teacher training programme in this area. To this day there are virtually no roads linking the valleys, so in order to visit isolated schools, team members had to travel by jeep, horse, or yak, or on foot.

Such isolation mitigates against the teaching profession. Few teachers from the northern areas have had formal training. They simply begin to teach in the local village schools when their own schooling is completed. The methods by which they were taught become their own.

In order to break traditional teaching habits, the Aga Khan field-based method calls for teachers to be transferred to different village schools for nine months. During this time they are constantly supervised by a master teacher. Special manuals provide them with lesson plans and suggest appropriate techniques.

The teachers are encouraged to "use local events as learning experiences and aids, to get pupils more actively involved in learning through various practical activities and questioning patterns rather than rote memorisation, to systematically evaluate pupil learning, to abstain from punishment and to use Urdu as the language of instruction."

Prof. Z.A. Ansari is director of the national Institute of Psychology at Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad and led the evaluation project. His report is highly critical of the system of teacher training throughout Pakistan — one which has been in place since independence. He calls it "one of the most neglected areas of education."

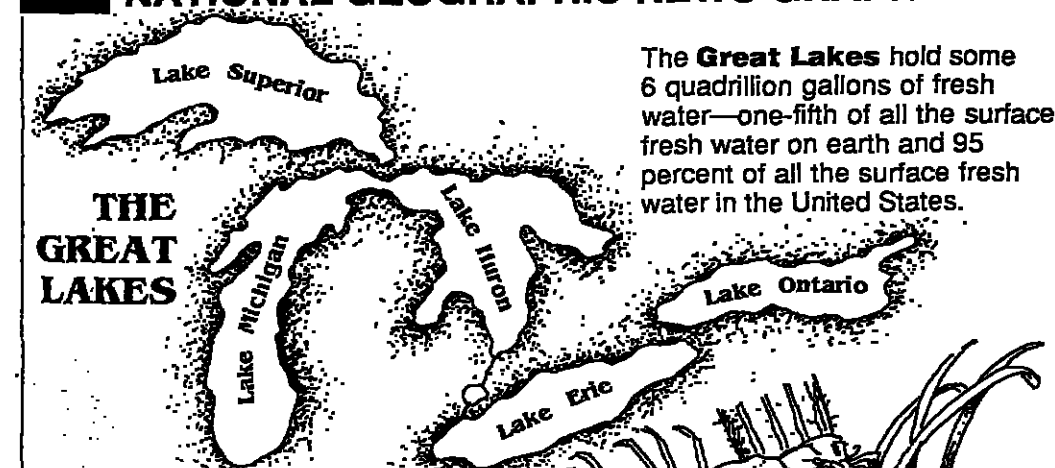
Although Pakistan's 87 teacher training institutes have a capacity for 26,000 teachers, they are far from full. About 14 per cent of male teachers and 25 per cent of female teachers enter service untrained.

The report argues that, for those who receive training, the standard one year is not enough. Furthermore, the lecturers themselves are not adequately trained and the "curriculum could do with a lot of improvement."

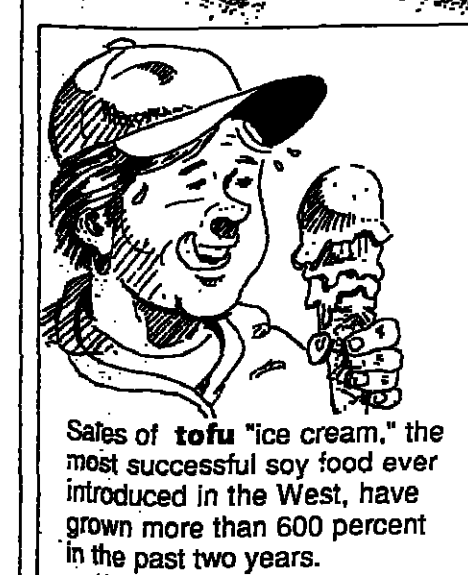
There is too much theory and not enough emphasis on the art of teaching, the report adds, and trainees are not given satisfactory instruction on how to motivate children or deal with behavioural problems.

It was against this backdrop of criticism of Pakistan's overall teacher training system that Prof. Ansari's team evaluated the Aga Khan field-based training programme. The researchers specifically examined the backgrounds, attitudes, perceptions, and classroom skills of the participating teachers, as well as their students' learning behaviour, in order to assess the programme's impact on teaching quality.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



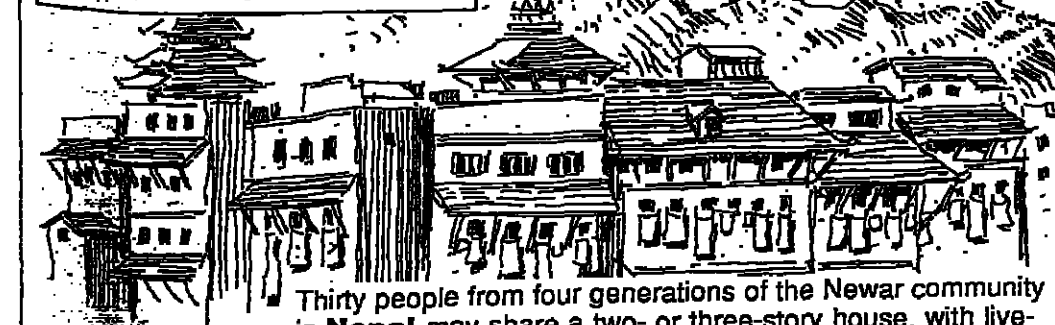
The Great Lakes hold some 6 quadrillion gallons of fresh water—one-fifth of all the surface fresh water on earth and 95 percent of all the surface fresh water in the United States.



Sales of tofu "ice cream," the most successful soy food ever introduced in the West, have grown more than 600 percent in the past two years.



About 8,000 persons suffer bites from all venomous snakes in the United States each year, but only 10 to 15 die.



Thirty people from four generations of the Newar community in Nepal may share a two- or three-story house, with livestock and stored produce occupying the ground floor.

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Finnish, Italian drivers cruise into victory in Pharaohs Rally

GIZA, Egypt (R) — Finland's Ari Vatanen, driving a Peugeot 205 T16, took first place in Cairo's 5,089-km (3,180-mile) Pharaohs Rally to win the \$5,000 prize on Wednesday.

Italian rider Alessandro de Pietri, on a Cagiva Elefant, won the motorcycle event and collected a similar cash prize offered by French and Egyptian organisers.

"It was a very nice rally," Vatanen told reporters by the pyramids as he drank a glass of milk after crossing the finishing

line with co-driver B. Berglund of Switzerland at the end of the 11-day rally.

He said he hoped to take part in next year's competition, but had not yet taken a final decision. Peugeot Talbot sport entered Egypt's only rally for the first time this year with three 205 T16s, but only two completed the event.

Kenyan Shekar Metha and Mike Doughty suffered injuries last week in the rally's most serious accident when their car struck a bump near Bahariya in the Western Desert, 440 km (275 miles) southwest of Cairo.

Organisers said Belgian Jacky Ickx, in a team fielding two Lada Poch Nivas, dropped out of the rally for technical reasons.

Ickx was the second well-known competitor to abandon the race after Italian Franco Picco, who won the motorcycle event.

Shredded money showered on baseball heroes

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of deliriously happy Minnesota Twins fans showered their heroes with millions of dollars in shredded money in a World Series victory celebration Tuesday.

"It's been building up since we won our division," said left fielder and leadoff man Dan Gladden, whose grand slam homer got the Twins off to a winning start in the first game.

"It's been parlayed and carried over since then. I guess this is the grand finale right here. These have got to be the best fans," Gladden said.

Seoul sees certain Pyongyang Olympic boycott

SEOUL (R) — South Korea is now convinced Communist North Korea has given up hopes of co-hosting next year's Olympics and will boycott the Seoul games, a senior foreign ministry official said on Wednesday.

Assistant Minister Park Soo-Gil called Pyongyang's latest message to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on its demand to share Olympic events "an attempt to shift the blame for the breakdown of the IOC talks."

He told foreign reporters at a briefing: "It now seems clear they will boycott the games."

North Korea on Oct. 23 asked the IOC to agree to postpone the next round of Lausanne talks on the issue involving the two Koreas until after presidential elections in the South in December.

NOTICE

Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped would like to inform its members and friends that the annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 10:30 a.m., as originally announced, since Nov. 3 has now been declared the official holiday for the Prophet Mohammad's birthday.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Zivojinovic wins through in Grand Prix

HONG KONG (R) — Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia, jet-lagged from playing on three continents within 20 days, survived a second set scare to move into the second round of the Hong Kong Grand Prix tennis event on Wednesday. Zivojinovic, the second seed, clawed his way back from 4-1 down in the second set to take a 6-4, 7-6 victory over West German Damir Keretic, who was born in Yugoslavia. Despite his precarious position, Zivojinovic said he was always confident. "He made some unbelievable shots but at no stage did I think I was going to lose the second set," he said.

Yugoslav cup chances jeopardised

BELGRADE (R) — Five players from Yugoslav First Division soccer club Red Star Belgrade have been hit by food poisoning, jeopardising the team's chances in the UEFA Cup, club officials said on Wednesday. Team coach Velibor Vasevic said: "They suffered intensive stomach pains after eating home made cakes brought to the club by fans celebrating Yugoslavia's win in the World Cup last week." Red Star wants to postpone Sunday's league match against Vardar of Skopje and will probably send a second rate squad to next Wednesday's UEFA second-round second-leg game at Club Brugge of Belgium as the five players are in bed with food poisoning, Vasevic told Reuters.

Kasparov postpones seventh game

SEVILLE, Spain (AP) — World chess champion Garri Kasparov took a timeout Wednesday, postponing the seventh game of his title contest with challenger Anatoli Karpov until Friday, match officials said. The score after six games stands 3.5-2.5 in Karpov's favour. Experts said Kasparov will use the two-day break to rethink his match strategy after losses in games two and five.

Soviets poised to reach European finals

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union, richly talented but infuriatingly slipshod at times, will want to secure the one point they need to qualify for the 1988 European championship soccer finals when they meet Iceland in Simferopol on Wednesday. The Russians are top of Group 3 with 11 points from seven games and a draw would be enough to take them out of reach of closest rivals East Germany, who have seven points and two matches to play.

EEC to hold its own biennial sports event

STRASBOURG, France (AP) — The world of sports will get wider with the addition of a new event: The European Community (EC) Games to be held biennially starting in 1989. The games will be privately sponsored and show the European Economic Community's "unity at the level of its individual citizens," according to its organising committee.

W. German shooting star banned

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — Sylvia Sperber, who won the West German women's small-bore shooting championship, was stripped of her title on Tuesday and banned until the end of the year after taking illegal drugs. The German Shooting Federation (DSB) suspended Sperber, 22, until January 1, 1988, after she failed a doping test, which included traces of ephedrin.

Kenya announces soccer squad

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenya has announced a provisional squad of 30 players for this year's East and Central Africa soccer challenge cup and for the Africa Cup of Nations competition next year. The Harambee stars will begin training under West German coach Reinhardt Fabisch on Nov. 16. The 1987 challenge cup will be held in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, beginning Dec. 12. Morocco will host next year's Africa Cup Championship.

NFL owners assess resuming parley with players union

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — NFL owners, picking up the pieces from the 24-day players' strike, hope they can restart negotiations with the union to forestall new repercussions such as the possibility of postponing the two-team expansion scheduled for 1989.

But the union isn't interested and the stock market problems of the last two weeks, which the management council says wiped out \$39 million of the \$40-million pension fund surplus, may add a new snag to the league's labour problems.

At their annual fall meeting Tuesday, the owners did little to recoup from the strike, voting only to maintain a 50-man roster for the rest of the regular season — with 45 allowed to dress for any game.

They also gave teams all eight free moves off injured reserve they were supposed to have from the start of the season, meaning that in effect, they have 13 extra players.

But a much ballyhooed proposal to split the season or add teams to the playoffs never came up — it barely had more than one vote.

They discussed trying to resume negotiations on a new contract with the NFL players association, which filed an antitrust suit seeking free agency and an end to the draft at the same time it sent its players back to work Oct. 15.

Soviet horses to stride in U.S. races

LAUREL, Maryland (AP) — It had been 21 years since Nikolai Nasibov last saw Laurel race course, where as a jockey he proved he could race competitively with Americans.

Nasibov has returned to Laurel as a trainer and is out to prove the two Russian horses in his care can race competitively in America as well.

One of those horses, Gjatksk, will run in the \$750,000 D. C. International Turf Race Saturday at Laurel, near Baltimore. The other, Star, will run in another turf race earlier that day.

"A lot of things have changed from when I was here in Baltimore 30 years ago," said Nasibov. "Baltimore has gotten 30

times bigger and better."

As a jockey in the 1950s and '60s, Nasibov rode in the D.C. International at Laurel eight times, finishing second in his final ride aboard Aniline in 1966.

First impression

"When we first came to United States, the Americans didn't think much of us," Nasibov said. "But then the competition was provided (by the Russian horses) and then they take us seriously."

Nasibov, 57, is taken very seriously among Soviet horsemen. He has won the Russian Derby 16 times — eight as a rider and eight as a trainer. The past 10 years, he has been the leading

trainer in the Soviet Union.

Bringing Nasibov, a well as Gjatksk and star and two Russian riders, to America is considered a major triumph by Frank de Francis, the owner of Laurel.

Gorbachev's glasnost

"I feel this was an extension of Mr. Gorbachev's policy of glasnost and liberalisation," de Francis added.

The Russian trainer said he is confident about Gjatksk's chances in the 1 and 1-4 mile (2-km) D.C. International.

"Gjatksk will give the other horses good competition," he said. "It is hard to compare because I have not seen the other horses run."

Mansell still confident of beating Piquet

SUZUKA, Japan (AP) — Nigel Mansell of England held out hope Wednesday that he still might overtake Brazilian Nelson Piquet for the overall Formula 1 driving championship.

Piquet, current leader in the overall standings, commented:

"We still have two more races so nothing is sure about who will win it."

Piquet led Williams-Honda teammate Mansell by 12 points with races yet to be run in Japan on Sunday and in Australia in November. The winner receives nine points, the runner-up six and the third finisher four in each Grand Prix race.

Mansell beat Piquet in the Mexican Grand Prix on Oct. 18, cutting Piquet's margin in the

standings to 73-61.

The official practice for the Japan Grand Prix, Suzuka, 1987, will be held Friday and Saturday, with the final race on Sunday at the Suzuka Circuit in central Japan.

Alain Prost of France, fourth in the season point standings with 46, said, "I still have a chance."

Asked apart from the car what element is most important for victory, Prost replied, "I think the driver who wins the race needs the motivation for the race and a strong will during the

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TWO BISHOPS VISIT FROM SWEDEN

The delegation of the Lutheran Church in Sweden headed by Archbishop Bertil Werkstroem visits Amman.

On Saturday, Oct. 31 at 6:30 p.m., Bishop Martin Loennebo preaches in English at Rainbow Congregation's service.

On Sunday, Nov. 1 at 7:00 p.m., Archbishop Bertil Werkstroem preaches in English (translated to Arabic).

You are cordially invited! Both services are to be held in the Good Shepherd Church, Um Al Summaq, Mecca Street, close to Jaber Shopping Centre.

For more information: 811295 Rev. Smir, Arabic congregation, 822605 Rev. Jaervinen, Rainbow Congregation.

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Malaysia bans rallies to stop riots

KUALA LUMPUR (Agencies) — Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohammad on Wednesday banned all rallies, including one planned by his own party which many people feared could spark race riots.

"The government wants to maintain peace and stability. As home minister, I will ban all rallies. Sunday's rally will not be held," Mr. Mahathir told parliament.

The country was tense on Wednesday after police said they detained 55 people, including members of Mr. Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) Party, the dominant group in the ruling 13-party coalition.

UMNO had planned a major rally on Sunday to celebrate the 41st anniversary of its founding and organisers had predicted that 500,000 of Malaysia's 16 million people would attend.

Mr. Mahathir did not say when

the ban on rallies would be lifted. Tension between the country's Malay and ethnic Chinese communities has risen sharply, partly because of an Education Ministry plan to appoint teachers who cannot speak Mandarin to administrative positions in Chinese schools.

Last week a man shot dead one person and injured two in a district of Kuala Lumpur where race riots broke out in May 1969, leaving hundreds dead.

Many Malaysians feared Sunday's rally could spark similar incidents between Malays, who make up just over half of the population, and Chinese, who comprise about a third.

Mr. Mahathir on Wednesday

justified the arrest of the 55, saying they had constantly raised sensitive issues. He said they had questioned Malay rights and raised communal and religious problems.

He was particularly critical of the opposition Democratic Action Party (DAP). The party's leader and other senior members have been detained.

Police said they had arrested the 55 under the Internal Security Act, which allows detention without trial. It was the biggest clampdown since Mr. Mahathir became prime minister in 1981.

Apart from DAP members, those arrested include Chinese educators, social reformers and members of the Malaysian Chinese Association, a senior party in the government coalition.

Mr. Mahathir also defended a government decision to ban three Malaysian newspapers, accusing them of highlighting sensitive

issues. "We are a developing country trying to improve our economy. If there is no stability there will be chaos," he told parliament.

The Assistant Secretary General of the Democratic Action Party (DAP) Lee Lam Thye, told reporters that Mr. Lim Kit Siang, the party's secretary general, and four other DAP members in the house of representatives, including Mr. Lim's son, Lim Guan Eng, had been arrested by the police under the Internal Security Act.

The other DAP lawmakers arrested were Amuthu David, Hu Sepang and Karpal Singh, Mr. Lee said.

Mr. Lim Guan Eng had been arrested earlier in the day, and his father had gone to the police station with party members to see his son, Mr. Lee said.

While trying to see Guan Eng, the lawmakers had challenged police to arrest them and they also were arrested, Mr. Lee said.

Indian troops hunt Tigers fleeing Jaffna

COLOMBO (R) — Indian troops tightened their grip on the Sri Lankan rebel stronghold of Jaffna and hunted over 1,000 Tamil Tiger guerrillas who slipped through the cordon around the northern town, military sources said on Wednesday.

They said the troops, who took effective control of Jaffna three days ago after more than two weeks of fighting, were still encountering sporadic sniper fire, landmines and booby traps as they cleared the city.

Indian military authorities said about 1,200 of the separatist Tigers, including their leader Velupillai Prabhakaran, had slipped out as the peace-keeping force advanced on Jaffna.

Troops and rebels also clashed on Tuesday at Kokuvil, on the outskirts of the city, where some of the fleeing rebels are believed to have regrouped, the military sources said. No details were available.

The sources said the Indians had arrested about 100 suspected rebels in the eastern Batticaloa district over the past three days.

Indian diplomats said 170 soldiers were killed, 631 wounded and 38 were reported missing in action since the Indian force launched an offensive on Oct. 10 to gain control of Jaffna and disarm

the rebels. They said about 600 rebels had been killed and 300 captured in the battles.

Indian troops launched the offensive after the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most powerful group, repudiated a peace accord it had reluctantly accepted.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said in New Delhi on Tuesday that the rebels could still enter the political process if they surrendered their weapons and accepted the accord.

The Indian force and a civilian group launched a plan on Tuesday to provide relief to about 50,000 Tamils in refugee centres in Jaffna, officials said.

They said more than five tonnes of bread and cooked food were distributed to the refugees while food was also airdropped to some refugee camps which could not be reached by road because of landmines.

The officials said Indian troops continued to guard a Hindu temple at Nallur near Jaffna where some rebels were suspected to have taken shelter along with 20,000 refugees.

They said the troops were reluctant to storm the temple for fear of civilian casualties.

3 Americans, 1 Filipino shot dead near U.S. base

MANILA (R) — Three Americans, including two air force servicemen, and one Filipino were killed on Wednesday while travelling separately near a U.S. military base west of Manila, a spokesman said.

Clark Air Base Press Officer Maj. Thomas Boyd said the killings happened within an hour of each other in residential districts 3 kilometres away from the base.

Maj. Boyd said the four had been shot.

"As far as I know this is the first time something like this has happened," he said, adding that investigators were questioning some witnesses. He declined to give details.

He said he did not know whether any suspects had been identified. "It's way too early to say."

Four police and military officials have been murdered in Manila in the past 24 hours by suspected members of a communist assassination squad.

The Clark Air Base television station beamed half-hourly warnings to residents of the installation not to leave home unless it was absolutely essential.

The announcement said U.S. servicemen must use only main roads which would be patrolled by extra policemen.

Maj. Boyd declined to identify the dead men but said the victims include a retired U.S. serviceman and a Filipino bystander who went to his aid.

Clark is one of two main U.S. military bases in the Philippines. Maj. Boyd said a total of 9,600 U.S. servicemen are stationed on the 140,000-acre complex.

Reagan considers contra vote delay

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan may wait until January to seek a vote on \$270 million in additional aid to the Nicaraguan contra rebels, administration officials say.

The possible delay, disclosed Tuesday night, would represent a shift from plans outlined earlier by Secretary of State George Shultz.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Shultz said in a speech that the administration would ask Congress to approve the renewed aid in November.

Mr. Shultz had said continued military pressure by the contras was necessary to insure that Nicaragua's leftist government abided by terms of the Central American peace agreement signed in August.

The agreement calls on the United States to end aid to the contras, while requiring that Nicaragua arrange a ceasefire and institute democratic reforms.

Mr. Shultz had said that as long as Nicaragua abided by the agreement the aid money would be used for the "peaceful reintegration" of the contras into Nicaraguan society.

But administration officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity,

said the Salvadorean President Jose Napoleon Duarte and leaders of other Central American countries have been asking the United States to give the peace process a chance by delaying a contra vote.

The deadline for implementation of the peace agreement is early November.

U.S. military aid to the contras expired on Sept. 30 and since then the rebels have been sustained with \$3.5 million in "non-lethal" assistance. The administration officials said several million dollars in additional aid probably would be sought next month to ensure that the contras survive until the prospective vote on the \$270-million package in January.

Meanwhile Nicaragua, at a meeting of five Central American foreign ministers, said it will pass a broader amnesty law in the next 10 days.

Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said the new law will be sent to the legislative assembly and will be signed on Nov. 5 by President Daniel Ortega.

The Nicaraguan diplomat spoke briefly with reporters Tuesday night as he left the hotel

where the foreign ministers are holding a two-day meeting to try to resolve differences over a regional peace plan.

Nov. 5 also is the deadline set by the pact for complying with the five main points of the plan, signed on Aug. 7 by the presidents of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica.

Other diplomats said how Nicaragua's Sandinista government will meet commitments in the plan on amnesties and a ceasefire in the war against U.S.-backed rebels are among the most difficult issues in the peace process.

They said Mr. d'Escoto described the promised law as "very general and very broad," but did not specify who would be granted amnesty.

Until now, the Nicaraguan government has offered amnesty only to rebels, known as contras, who lay down their arms and not to all of the country's political prisoners.

Luis Solis, chief of staff at the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, reported Mr. d'Escoto said the amnesty would include "a broad spectrum of political prisoners."

Burkina troops take mutinous garrison

OUAGADOUGOU (R) — Loyal troops have seized a mutinous military garrison whose commander had refused to pledge allegiance to new Burkina Faso strongman Capt. Blaise Compaore, official sources said on Wednesday.

The rebel officer, Capt. Boukary Kabore, was on the run, they said.

Capt. Compaore seized power in a bloody coup on Oct. 15 during which Burkina Faso leader Thomas Sankara was killed. The garrison at Koudougou, 100 kilometres west of Ouagadougou, was captured on Tuesday apparently without much resistance.

A group of Burkina Faso journalists was taken to Koudougou after the operation and the government-controlled daily Sidwaya (the truth) newspaper said resistance was short-lived.

Ouagadougou Radio said there were no casualties.

Prosecutor: Deaver lied to protect lobbying business

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael K. Deaver turned his longtime association with U.S. President Ronald Reagan into a lucrative lobbying business and later lied when questioned under oath about his influence-peddling, the prosecutor has charged at the former presidential aide's perjury trial.

Mr. Deaver "decided in 1985 to turn that relationship into personal gain," leaving the White House staff to form a public relations business, independent counsel Whitney North Seymour Jr. said in opening remarks to the jury.

Ecuador imposes emergency

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — President Leon Febres Cordero imposed a state of emergency and placed the media under partial censorship to block a general strike Wednesday by the nation's most powerful labour federation.

The 24-hour strike was organised by the Communist-led United Front of Labourers to demand the ouster of Interior Minister Luis Robles, who was impeached by congress last month for allegedly violating the rights of political prisoners, but allowed to remain in office.

The president's dismissal of the congressional action against Mr.

Robles has galvanised the opposition, which has charged that Mr. Febres Cordero is pushing Ecuador toward a dictatorship.

The Robles case has created a government crisis in this tiny Andean nation, which returned to elective government in 1979 after seven years of military governments.

The government declared Wednesday's strike illegal. But the United Front of Labourers issued a statement saying it would go on. The federation said that more than 1 million workers and 800,000 students and farm workers would participate.

South Korean voters give resounding 'yes' to reforms

SEOUL (R) — South Koreans have voted overwhelmingly for a democratic constitution giving them the right to choose a presidential successor to former General Chun Doo Hwan on the basis of a free, direct election.

Officials said on Wednesday that with more than 90 per cent of votes counted from Tuesday's referendum, over 93 per cent were in favour of the new constitution. The final result will be formally announced on Thursday, they said.

Mr. Chun is expected to address the nation on Friday to confirm the nation's resounding "yes" to a constitution which will allow the first direct presidential elections for 16 years.

The constitution will take effect from Feb. 25 next year, the day after Mr. Chun is due to

stand down after a seven-year presidential term.

Under the terms of the new constitution, Mr. Chun's successor will have an unrenounceable five-year mandate and will not be able to enjoy emergency powers enabling him to dissolve parliament at will.

There are at present four declared candidates for the December one-man one-vote elections. Previous presidents were chosen by an Electoral College.

Voting in the referendum was largely incident-free, apart from a protest by 2,000 students and workers at Seoul's Catholic cathedral who denounced the vote as a trick to extend Mr. Chun's authoritarian rule through the election of his chosen successor, Roh Tae Woo of the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ettenson

RELATIVITY
By Frances Barton

ACROSS

1. Grey
2. Hail go wrong
3. Rob's —
4. Heppon upon
5. Fairy tale
6. Emerald slat
7. Reef material
8. — Stanley
9. Military school
10. — Russell
11. Movie
12. Collection
13. God of war
14. Farm buildings
15. Punctuation
16. Twentieth
17. Poolmaster's
18. Ant-leopard

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1. Crowds
2. Conspiring
3. Highlander
4. Vietnamese New Year
5. Fanciful by line
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16. Pains saint of
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22. Soliloquy words

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36. Showstrings

37. Tower

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